Surrey Constabulary History
'An in depth history of policing in Surrey'

www.surrey-constabulary.com

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Victorian Biographies

Volume Two

A few of the First One Hundred of the Surrey Constabulary

Contents

Captain Henry Cadogan Hastings
Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary
1851 -1899

Born 1813 Edinburgh died 1906 Guildford

Henry Cadogan Hastings

Robert Bartlett with additional research by Jean and Henry Pelham January2021

Introduction

As was the custom, the appointment of a chief constable for Surrey came from the upper classes, gentry, minor aristocracy, a former soldier a description that fitted Captain Hastings. His links to the Cadogan family and his own privileged background including Eton and the Indian Army fitted the requirement well. However, it was close with Hastings receiving 20 votes for and 18 against his appointment!

This paper is not a biography of Captain Hastings but concentrates on his family history, appointment, retirement a death. He lived to be an elderly man and was to see a number of his children die. Henry in 1868 fighting in New Zealand, [1] his 17-year-old daughter in the same year in Shalford, and son Holloway 1886. There is also a son Alfred of which other than his

[1] Tītokowaru's War was a military conflict that took place in the South Taranaki region of New Zealand's North Island from June 1868 to March 1869 between the Ngāti Ruanui and Ngāruahine Māori tribes and the New Zealand Government. Riwha Tītokowaru, chief of Ngaruahine, responded to continued surveying and settlement of confiscated land with well-planned and effective attacks on settlers and government troops in an effort to block the occupation of Māori land.

birth no record has been found. His wife Mary was to die in 1887. It is easy to see why he stayed as Chief Constable for so long. The force was his life, his family and I suspect he looked on several of those who served as surrogate sons. One of his grandsons became an eminent and very famous barrister and KC.

When a man serves so long in such a significant role that affects the lives of so many, it is easy to find circumstances where, with the hindsight of history, it is possible to be critical of the actions he took. However, it must be recognised that he founded the Surrey Constabulary and took all the major decisions on its development for almost 50 years achieving a force that was recognised as one of the best.

Family History

Born 23 June 1813 Edinburgh died 20 February 1906 Guildford [2]

Eton School list 1829 – Hastings, Henry Cadogan, Chief Constable at Guildford

He was a lieutenant in the 55th Bengal Native Infantry. Returning to England he became the Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary in 1851.

Parents: Charles Holland Hastings (1780-1847) and Mary Gardiner (1786-1851)

Married: May 1838 at St Cuthberts, Edinburgh – to Mary Wood. (1813-1887)

Moved to Guildford in 1851

1851 Census - Living Shalford, Surrey with Mary and son Alfred aged 3 and daughter (no name under 1 week old). Henry's occupation is shown as Chief Constable.

1871 Census - Living Guildford with Mary and Alfred – aged 23 years old and a Law Student. Henry's occupation is shown as Chief Constable.

1881 Census - Living with Mary at Somerset House, Spital Street, Stoke, Guildford – occupation Chief Constable.

1891 Census - Living, London Road, Stoke, Guildford – occupation Chief Constable

1901 Census - Living, London Road, Guildford, occupation late Chief Constable.

Electoral Roll – 1906 – living London Road, Guildford.

Children

[2] http://www.thepeerage.com/p72512.htm#c725113.1

Henry Charles Holland Hastings 1839-1868
Born 15 March 1839 Christened 6 April 1839 Edinburgh
Lt. Married Louisa Elliott 21 July 1864 Nelson New Zealand
Died 7 September 1868 South Taranaki, New Zealand
Child Henry Charles Holland Hastings

At the early age of 17 he obtained a commission in the crack 14th Dragoons and went to India in 1857. Afterwards he moved to the 109th regiment and for a year or two with the 57th and the 12th Bombay Native Infantry – six rough years in India. He sold his commission and sailed from England in March 1864 arriving in Nelson a few months later. Later that year he moved to Wellington.

When the hostilities began in New Zealand he volunteered and joined the (first company of) Wellington Rangers as a lieutenant. Only 29 years of age when killed in action at Te Ngutu-o-te Manu during the New Zealand wars along with several other comrades. Lt. Hastings was married in 1864 and left a wife and infant son.

A lengthy press report has been condensed:

Henry Charles Holland Hastings was shot down while bringing up the rear guard as our forces retired under murderous fire, there died a gallant fellow who if spared, would have rendered the colony good service. Born in Surrey March 15, 1839 and aged 29 at time of his death. He belonged to an old country family; his grandfather was Sir Charles Holland Hastings who commanded HM forces in Scotland. His father Henry Cadogan Hastings was also in early life a soldier, while his brother Captain Hastings is at present a Civil Commissioner in Oude. [3]

Married in 1864 to Louisa Elliott in New Zealand

Quote from New Zealand's Cemetery Records

"This window is erected by the members of the Wellington Veteran Corps No 1 Wellington Rifles, the Porirua and Pates Rifle companies, in memory of Chaplain George Buck and Lieut. Henry Charles Holland Hastings late of the Wellington Veteran Corps who fell while gallantly serving with the colonial forces in the attack on NGUTD-O-LE-MANU on the 7th September 1868" He was award medals from New Zealand service year 1860-1870

Holloway Waldron Hastings 1840 Edinburgh - died 1886 Durham

Married – 1878 Helen Robertson Hamilton, (1850-1897) at Bygulla, Bombay, India.

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3 https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/WI18680912.2.19?items_per_page=10&query=henry+cadogan+hastings&snippet=true

1851 Census – Living with an Aunt in Durham, shown at school aged 10.

1871 Census – Living at Spital Street, Stoke, Guildford, age 30, shown as Lodger.

From the UK, Medical and Dental Students Register: 1882 Holloway W Hastings – record – R. Coll Surg. Ireland – October 21, 1882. Led W. Sch, Dublin November 1882.

Probate: Granted to Helen Hastings, wife.
Holloway W Hastings was a Lieutenant Colonel, who held various appointments in India, including Deputy Commissionership of Lucknow. Retired to Durham where he had been raised and later died.

Charles Douglas Hastings
Born 14 October 1844 Edinburgh
1851 Census – Living in Westminster – shown as a visitor, aged 6. Officer's son
Nothing else known

Alfred Gardiner Hastings
Born 29 October 1847 Deal England -died 1916 Hammersmith

Married 1877 to Catherine Grace Carr – Marylebone, London (Kate Comyns Carr a pre-Raphaelite painter)

1851 – Census – living with Parents, Shalford, Surrey – age 3 years old

1871 – Census – living with parents – aged 23 – occupation Law Student

1881 Census – Living Holford House, St Maryblebone, Christchurch, age 39 – occupation Solicitor. Living with wife Catherine and two sons Archibald and Patrick age 2 and 1.

1911 Census - Living with Catherine, occupation shown as a Company Promotor. Living at Portland Road, Notting Hill, London. With Archibald Charles G Hastings 1878-1937 and Patrick Gardiner Hastings, later to become Sir Patrick Hastings KC 1880-1952.

Son and Grandson of Captain Hastings, Sir Patrick Gardner Hastings

Alice Hastings 1851 Shalford – died 1868 Shalford aged 17

1851 Census – Living with family – no name 1 week old

Appointment as Chief Constable

1850 December 31: The new Chief Constable: Surrey Quarter Sessions the Frimley Murder and late Burglaries in Surrey - Extension of the Police Force [4]

Tuesday being the first day of the Epiphany Sessions, an extraordinary number of magistrates assembled for the purpose of electing the Chief Constable to govern the New Rural Police Force about to be established in the county without the metropolitan district, and to transfer the county business; Thomas Puckle, Esq., in the chair.

The Clerk of the Peace read the report of the Rural Police Committee, which specified that they had received the Secretary of State's sanction to the establishment of a rural police force, and that they had examined a number of candidates for the office of Chief Constable, and after mature consideration they had come to the determination of proposing to the court, H.C. Hasting, Esq., E.I.C.S., [5] as a fit and proper person to fill the important situation; that he should find sureties in the sum of £1000 as a guarantee that he should perform his duty. The committee had also considered the question relative to the headquarters and had come to the determination that Guildford should be the place instead of Godalming, being in a more central position, and that Reigate should be the station for a superintendent instead of Dorking as mentioned in the former report. The committee also suggested that a two-penny rate be made in these districts to support the new police.

Lord Lovaine proposed that the report of the committee be received and adopted.

[4] The South Eastern Gazette 7 January 1851
[5] EICS = East India Company Service

Lord Lovelace said he would say a few words in explaining his opinion respecting the report of the committee. He admitted that the person who was recommended was a trustworthy gentleman, and of the highest respectability; but let them recollect that this subject was brought forward to apply a remedy for the evils which have for so long a time existed in the more remote parts of the county, such as the melancholy occurrence, the Frimley murder, which was recently perpetrated, and several desperate burglaries; and the ratepayers being called upon to pay extra rates, that ought to consider the subject well, and appoint an efficient person to govern the police and prevent such crimes being committed. He doubted whether Captain Hastings would not have to learn his duty, which ought not to be the case, when everything will be done by the orders of the superior officer. They (the magistrates) were responsible to the ratepayers, and ought to select a fit and proper person.

Sir R. Frederick, although a member of the committee, disproved of their report, as they gave no reason for recommending Captain Hastings more than any other candidate. There were many others more capable of performing the duty than he was.

The Rev. T. Thurlow thought they were bound to receive the party proposed and selected by the committee as it was left in their hands. He certainly would support them, and second Lord Lovain's motion.

Mr Penrhyn said, it was usual in such cases to recommend three or four candidates to the court, but as the committee had full power to select the party, they had no alternative but to adopt their report

Mr Kemble said he proposed that the committee should recommend one as they were enabled to examine into the testimonials of the party with more care than the whole court. If the committee had been unfortunate in selecting an objectionable party, they could not help it; therefore, he would not give an opinion on their choice. He could only say, that, being the party who had the honour of submitting that resolution at the last meeting, he felt compelled to support their nomination.

Colonel Challoner said, the committee had no power to return more than one name. It must have been a lapsus linguae[6] on the Hon. Bart. (Sir R. Frederick). ("No, No!" and laughter.) He thought it was and he hoped it would be the last time the committee would be allowed to select one person.

After a lengthy discussion, between Colonel Leek, S. Nicholson, C. Barclay, Lord Lovaine, and A.B. Barclay, esq., the resolution was put, when 20 hands were held up in favour of the adoption of the report, and 18 against.

Captain Hastings was accordingly elected Chief Constable of Surrey.

[6] From Latin **lapsus linguae**, literally a slip or fault of the tongue

1850 December 31: At the Surrey Quarter Sessions yesterday the rural police committee submitted their report relative to the appointment of a Chief Constable and the headquarters of the force. Captain Hastings H.E.I.C.S., was recommended as a fit person for the duty; and after some discussion amongst the magistrates, it appeared that the adoption of the report was carried by a majority of two, the numbers being 20 and 18. Captain Hastings was accordingly elected.[7]

1851 January 1 in the Morning Post Wednesday: "At the Surrey Quarter Sessions yesterday the rural police committee submitted their report relative to the appointment of a Chief Constable and the headquarters of the force. Captain Hastings was recommended as a fit person for the duty; and after some discussion amongst the magistrates, it appeared that the adoption of the report was carried by a majority of two, the numbers being 20 and 18. Captain Hastings was accordingly elected." Hastings had served in the Indian Army and went to school at Eton.

1851 January 1: The Surrey Constabulary became operational with an establishment of seventy police officers, including five superintendents. The first chief constable, Captain Hastings, was aged thirty-eight years.

The chief constable required the men to be honest and sober, less than thirty years of age and at least five feet seven inches tall. There was no minimum age - one constable was appointed at the age of fourteen and another at fifteen. The first county headquarters was in the old Guildford Borough Police Station at the Corn Market House but this was only until the new headquarters was completed in Woodbridge Road in 1854. County police stations were established in Bagshot, Chertsey, Dorking and Farnham and new stations were built at Egham, Godstone, Guildford, Haslemere, Hersham, Leatherhead, and Reigate. The original station at Chertsey was sold because of its poor condition and a new one built. Five superintendents were stationed at Reigate, Dorking, Godalming, Farnham and Headquarters.

There was no rank of sergeant, which does not appear in the records until 1865. There were four classes of constables with newly appointed officers starting at class four and moving through the classes on promotion. They were required to work seven days a week and granted twelve days leave a year, which had to be taken in summer as no leave was permitted during the winter. It was not until 1853 that an Instruction Book was provided to give guidance on policing matters, although the system of General Orders began on 30 January 1851. The first order related to the taking of leave.

1851 January 13: The office of **Superintendent of the Surrey** police has been conferred on Mr Henry Cadogan Hastings, late **lieutenant (sic)** in the 55 Bengal Native Infantry.[8] (Served with the East India Company)

[7] 1851 January 1: Morning Post Wednesday
[8] 1851 January 13: The Times

Some 49 years later

Retirement and interview with a reporter, 'a chat with the Chief'

West Surrey Times 2 September 1899

Captain Hastings' Retirement: Senior Chief Constable of England and Wales: For nearly fifty years, to be precise 49 years next December, Henry Codogan Hastings has been head of the Surrey Constabulary, and his length of service entitled him to the proud distinction of senior chief constable of England and wales. His has been a worthy record, and no one will say he has not well deserved the pension upon which he now retires. It is not easy in the present day to form a just idea of the work he has done.

Imagine the state of Surrey when he was first appointed. Lawless bands were roving about the county committing all sorts of depredations and robberies, unchecked by any organised body of police, and causing a widespread feeling of anxiety and insecurity. The magistracy felt it was time for determined action and appointed Captain Hastings to form a county constabulary. His work, therefore, was all new, all creative. The old system of village constables afforded no basis to build upon. But despite all difficulties the work was done and done well. Backed up by the old police committee of the Quarter Sessions he built up a force the efficiency of which has long been acknowledged, and which is now three times its original strength. It may with some confidence be said that the Surrey County Constabulary under Captain Hastings has reached a position second to none in the kingdom and so far as he is personally concerned, it is admitted by those competent to judge that he has discharged his onerous duties with conspicuous ability, the utmost diligence, great tact and with unfailing courtesy.[9]

And now he has relinquished his post. He feels that his work is done, and that a younger man should take over the responsibility of controlling such an organisation. It was with deep regret that the Standing Joint Committee in June received his resignation and proceeded to appoint a successor. Out of 51 applicants the choice ultimately fell upon Captain Sant of the Northumberland Fusiliers who attended at the County Police Station, Guildford on Thursday and formally took over the "seals of office" from Captain Hastings, who took his leave with a hearty shake of the hand wishing Captain Sant every prosperity in his new role,

A few days before this interesting scene was being enacted in the precincts of the police station, I was privileged to have a little chat with the retiring chief. The Captain was seat in his private office which while not elaborately furnished or of great dimension, has an air about it of unmistakable comfortable, which was made more real to the visitor by the geniality of its occupant. As he rose to greet me, I could scarcely believe that I was face to face with a gentleman over whose head more than four score and more years have passed. Yet such I believe is Captain Hasting's age, but I found him withal quick of hearing, alert of mind and

[9] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

possessed of a retentive memory. The Captain is not an egotist. His modesty will not allow him to talk much about himself. And another distinct trait in his character was shown by a desire to say nothing which would call up painful memories in the minds of others. We talked on a variety of subjects, for naturally half-a-century's work as Chief Constable of Surrey has brought him in contact with many distinguished persons and necessitated his presence at several memorable scenes.[10]

The state of the country which led to the origin of the present police force was first touched on by Captain Hastings and this is the picture he drew. Practically the only protection against lawlessness and disorder was afforded by the old system of parish constables. Sheep stealing, burglaries and robberies too often accompanied by violence were matters of constant occurrence. There were several gangs in these parts who seemed to defy all attempts at capture and their doings quite terrified the countryside. This went on until the culmination was reached with the Murder of Frimley, the Rev Mr Hollest, whose house had been broken into, and who was shot by a pistol which had been loaded with a marble. This case created a tremendous sensation and four men who were implicated in it were tried and sentenced at Guildford. (Note: It was Kingston Assizes)

"Well," continued Captain Hastings "as I said, the climax was reached when this terrible murder was committed and the Surrey magistracy felt that it was high time there was a properly organised police force, similar to those which had been constituted in Essex and other counties. At the Epiphany Quarter Sessions of 1850-1851 strictly speaking in December 1850, I was appointed chief constable and had the task of forming a constabulary for the county."

It would be interesting to know what steps you took. "Advertisements for men were issued, and several good officers from other forces were tempted to join the Surrey Constabulary in the hope of gaining promotion. Among these was Superintendent Page father of the present Deputy Chief Constable who was one of the very best men we had. He came from Birmingham. Superintendent Hollington of Guildford and Superintendent Biddlecombe of Godalming were amongst the first officers of the new force. As to the men they were drawn, as now, largely from the labouring classes. Several of the old village constables applied to join the constabulary and were selected. The men used to go every day to drill in Shalford Park and I was then living in a cottage on the late Sir Henry Austen's estate at Shalford."[11]

How does the present county police force compare numerically with that formed in 1851? Captain Hastings: "the force is now more than three times as strong. We began with between 50 and 70 men and now, more than three times as strong. I ought perhaps to state that the boroughs including Guildford were at first under my charge but now both Guildford and Reigate have separate constabularies, and that makes the comparative difference in the strength of the force the greater. Godalming also had a separate force for some years but after the passing of the Local Government Act its police were again merged into the county constabulary. The

[10] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[11] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

original headquarters of the county police were in remises at Tunsgate, which afterwards became the Bough police station."[12]

Any changes in dress? Captain Hastings, "We have always adhered to the Metropolitan uniform. At one time our men wore high hats and white trousers but that of course was many years ago."

The of Guildford Assizes which used to be two or three weeks would naturally afford a good deal of reminiscence, but for the fact that the principal cases are fairly well known to the older Guildfordians, and, have on more than one occasion been served up for the benefit of the younger generation." Captain Hastings briefly touched on several cause celebres.

Proceeding he said "On the occasion of a case brought by Mr Edmunds against the government, Mr Gladstone who was then Prime Minister, and the Hon Robert Lowe (afterwards Lord Sherbroke) and the Hon James Stansfield both Cabinet Ministers attended as witnesses, but the counsel for the Treasury, I think it was Mr Hawkins QC, (afterwards Mr Justice Hawkins) found that their evidence was not required. As there was no return train to London for a couple of hours, I conducted Mr Gladstone and his companions round Guildford, and knowing the former's penchant for articles of vertu and bric-a-brac, I took hm to Messrs Williamson's galleries in which he was greatly interested." [13]

That is not the only occasion that you were brought in contact with Mr Gladsone was it? Captain Hastings "No, during the Irish Fenian outrages when he visited Holmbury St Mary the Surrey police had to watch the place to protect him from danger. Another occasion I was in his company was the inquest of Bishop Wilberforce who was thrown from his horse whilst riding in the company with the late earl Grenville from Leatherhead Station to Holmbury, the residence of the earl's brother. That occurred on July 19th, 1873. They were riding across the downs and at a spot known as Evershed's Rough, the Bishop's horse put its foot in a hollow and the bishop, who always rode with a loose rein, was thrown over the animal's head, and sustained dislocation of the neck, death being instantaneous. The body of the deceased was removed to Abinger Hall the residence of Mr Thomas Farrer now Lord Farrer. At the inquest while Earl Granville was giving his evidence, Mr Gladsone entered the room and remained standing for some time, evidently rapt in thought. The whole affair was so sad, and made such an impression on my mind, that I can quite well recollect it." [14]

It has been Captain Hastings' special privilege to be present at several functions in the county at which members of the royal family have attended and, on the occasion of the great agricultural show held in 1872 by the Bath and West of England Society at Shalford Park, he rode in the same carriage with HRH Prince of Wales.[15]

[12] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[13] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[14] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[15] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

Volunteers and Guys

The mention of volunteers recalled to Captain Hastings recollection the great review in 1864 on Farley Heath. That was the first Easter gathering of the volunteers and the muster on that occasion was about 20,000. Volunteers then excited a great deal more interest than nowadays and, on that occasion, said Captain Hastings there were something like 20,000 or 25,000 spectators. They came from all parts. The arrangements for that big crowd fell upon the Surrey police force, who had no assistance from London. In those days the rifles were muzzle loaders and a few accidents resulted. A reverend JC Earls of Albury was shot and slightly wounded by a ram rod, which a careless rifleman had forgotten to take out of his rifle after loading.[16]

It may not seem complimentary to our citizen soldiers to jump from volunteers to Guys but interviewers are allowed certain liberties and Captain Hastings was next asked to narrate his experiences of the famous November riots in Guildford. Like all the old Gilfordians the Captain had a lively recollection of the doings of the "young bloods" and said men from his constabulary had on more than one occasion to go to the assistance of the Borough force who were then under the charge of Superintendent Law. In November 1863 after the military who had been stationed in the town returned to Aldershot the Guys made their appearance, and as usual did a great amount of damage. The ex-mayor Mr Piper came in for a special share of their attentions and his house (Captain Hastings was at that time living next door to Mr Piper on the Merrow Road) was wrecked. This, however, was the last serious outbreak; several of the ringleaders being caught, received a rather stiff sentence. The suppression of the Guy riots took place during the mayoralty of Mr PW Jacob. In their dealings with the Guys the county police did not always come off victorious. Once they were put to rout and several of them were severely maltreated, Carpenter, one of the constables. Having the misfortune to get his eye knocked out, the result being that he had to be pensioned by the county for the rest of his days.[17]

A Famous Prize Fight

It is perhaps not generally known why the famous prize fight between Sayers and Heenan did not take place in Surrey as was originally arranged. Captain Hastings can explain why. Just before the fight was due to take place, he received a telegraphic communication from Sir Richard Mayne, who was then the chief commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. To the effect that the encounter was to take place on Blackheath. Captain Hastings: "To guard against any surprises I had men stationed at every station on the South Eastern Railway between Redhill and Guildford. Seeing the police on the watch the prize fighters and their backers continued to Farnborough, which is in the county of Hants, and here they alighted, the fight ultimately taking place in a field on the other side of the Blackwater stream, and just across the Surrey borders. And so, you see now how it was that it was not fought in Surrey.

[16] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[17] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

During the Fenian scare in the sixties, and after the Clerkenwell outrage in 1867 the Surrey police were especially employed to watch the Knaphill convict prison, where some of the prisoners were confined in order to prevent any attempts at rescue.

Captain Hastings was appointed when Mr Puckle was chairman of the Quarter Sessions and has had the honour of serving under several able chairmen since then. Of the kindness and consideration, he has always received at the hands of the magistrates, and of the Standing Joint Committee, the Chief Constable said he could not speak too highly. They had supported him most thoroughly, readily falling in with any suggestions he might from time to time might have made for the improvement of the force.

Of the loyalty of the officers by whom he was surrounded, and of the constables, he also spoke in terms of high praise. The Captain is proud of the force which he called into being and it is with feelings of the deepest regret, mutually shared, I am sure by every member of the force, that he feels compelled to sever his old associations with it. However, as he remarked to me at the close of a really interesting and pleasant interview, he had the satisfaction of knowing that he was being succeeded in office by a very able gentleman, and that Captain Sant would, he was sure, find everything in perfect order, and the force in a high state of efficiency.[18] [19]

An Interesting Presentation

On Thursday the different superintendents of the force attended the Guildford headquarters to take farewell of Captain Hastings and to be introduced to his successor Captain Sant, and the visit was made the occasion of an interesting presentation to the retiring Chief Constable.

Superintendent Page addressing Captain Hastings said it had been the desire of the whole force to present him on his retirement with some token of respect which they all felt for him. In deference however to his express wish the movement had had been limited entirely to the superintendents and so it was understood also that Captain Hastings would prefer that the presentation should simply take the form of a written expression of their feelings towards him, they begged him to accept the following address:

> Captain Henry Cadogan Hastings Chief Constable of Surrey: Sir, we the undermentioned superintendents of the Surrey Constabulary desire for ourselves and on the part of the officers and men of our respective divisions, respectfully to assure you of the sincere regret which we feel upon your resignation of the office of chief constable, which you have held with so much distinction for nearly half a century. We would further express our keen appreciation of your kindness and courtesy to us and to all who have served under you and we beg you to believe that we shall always remember with gratitude the many occasions upon which you have used your influence to advance

[18] From Henry Pelham January 2021
[19] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

the interest of the force. We trust you may be long spared to enjoy the repose which you have so well earned, with the knowledge that your long service to the county of Surrey have gained for you not only the respect and esteem of the public generally, burt also the good will and regard of the force under your command. We have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servants, Howard J Page, Henry Collis, William Alexander, Edwin Hackman, James Brice, Arthur Simmonds, George Boon.

They hoped, Superintendent Page continued, that Captain Hastings would allow the address to lie upon his table and that it would serve to remind him in the future of his long and honourable service to the county of Surrey and would recall some of those who had the privilege and pleasure of serving under him. In the name of the Surrey Constabulary, he begged Captain Hastings acceptance of the gift.

The address was contained in a very handsomely prepared and illuminated album specially designed by Messes Marcus Ward and Co., which on the outside bore Captain Hastings crest and initials. Inside the signatures of the different superintendents were reproduced in facsimile.

Captain Hastings who obviously was very touched by this mark of esteem thanked the donors most heartily for their gift. They could not possibly of given him anything he would prise more highly, and he should always value it exceedingly.

Subsequently to superintendents lunched with Captain Hastings at the Angel Hotel, this pleasant though informal gathering marking the close of official relations which will always be looked back upon with interest and pleasure. [20]

The County Presentation

We learn from Mr TW Weeding who is acting as treasurer of the fund being raised for a county presentation to Captain Hastings, has already received promises and subscriptions amounting to £270. It is proposed to make the presentation to the late Chief Constable in the magistrates' room at the County Hall, Kingston on Thames, before commencing the business of Quarter Sessions in October; but this has not yet definitely been decided upon.[21]

1906 Captain Hastings Dies aged 93

1906 February 20: Hastings dies: Obituary Captain Hastings 22 February: The death is announced of Captain Henry Cadogan Hastings formerly chief constable of Surrey, who since his retirement in August 1899 has resided at Waterden Crescent, Guildford. He had reached the advanced age of 93 years. Captain Hastings was the first chief constable of Surrey being appointed at the Epiphany Quarter Sessions in 1850. The constitution of the Surrey Constabulary which at first numbered 70 members all told was rendered necessary by the state

[20] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times
[21] 1899 September 2 West Surrey Times

of disorder prevailing in the county, a number of outrages having taken place, culminating in the sensational murder of a vicar at Frimley. Captain Hasting's services were much esteemed in the county and upon his retirement after discharging his duties for close upon half a century, he was publicly presented with a testimonial. Before his appointment as chief constable Captain Hastings was in the services of the East India Company. [22]

1906 February 24: Death of first Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary [23]

London Gazette: Henry Cadogan Hastings Deceased. NOTICE is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of Henry Cadogan Hastings, of Waterden Crescent, Guildford, in the county of Surrey, late Chief Constable of the county, deceased (who died on the 20th day of February 1906. and whose will and codicil were proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, on the 1st day of March, 1906, by Alfred Gardiner Hastings and Howard John Page, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send the particulars, in writing, their claims or demands to me, the undersigned, the Solicitor for the said executors, on or before the 14th day of April next, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice.—Dated this 15th day of March, 1906. R. B. WELLS, Guildford, Solicitor for the said Executors.[24]

[22] "Obituary." Times [London, England] 22 Feb. 1906: 7
[23] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser *24 February 1906*
[24] https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/27896/page/2005/data.pdf

Superintendent William Biddlecombe
Surrey's First Detective
High Constable and Inspector of Police at Godalming 1840-1850
Surrey Constabulary
1 January 1851- May 1858
Appointment No 1

Robert Bartlett July 2011 Version 4

History has not been kind to the memory of those who policed the county in the days before the professional and recognisably modern constabulary established in 1851. There are however examples of good policing given the constraints of the time, the lack of knowledge, medical or scientific support, little obvious means of communication and almost no transport. Yet, if there was a serious crime such as the double murder at Fetcham in 1826, or the robbery and murder on the road through Banstead in 1834, or the work undertaken in 1850 following the murder of the vicar of Frimley, there was a very professional response identifiable as police work. Detailed examinations of the body by the parish police officers, examination of the bodies by the coroner and a local medical man and frequently the newspaper reporter in situ, the bodies not moved until viewed by the jury. A very detailed report of findings made. A search of the scene and of the local area was undertaken with information posted widely on bills offering rewards for information and containing details of suspects and or their descriptions.

William Biddlecombe was one of these paid constables in Godalming a very small borough police force where crime reports were reduced to nil and his expertise sought across Sussex and into Hampshire where he had previously served in the county constabulary. Biddlecombe's reputation ensured he was brought by the Frimley magistrates to the scene of the murder of the Reverent Hollest. There were no local police and the parish officials were in this case out of their depth and recognised that fact, not too proud to seek help. Working alongside Biddlecombe was a sergeant from the Metropolitan Police and an inspector from the Guildford Borough – in fact he was also the head constable.

Biddlecombe, in the words of the newspapers was "extremely active" and amassed a wealth of experience which allowed once he became the first officer of the new constabulary in Surrey, to undertake some of the early major enquiries.

William Henry Biddlecombe the Head Constable of Godalming Borough Police and on the 1 January 1851 became Number 1 on the roll for the newly formed Surrey Constabulary with the position of superintendent. Aged 36, 5ft 10 tall Biddlecombe hailed from the Isle of Wight having served in the Hampshire Constabulary before moving to Godalming. He was to serve in the Surrey Constabulary until 1 May 1858 when he resigned to become the licensee of the Swan Inn at Chertsey, setting a trend followed by many an ex-police officer. There is no

reference in the County Police Committee minutes for 1858 to Biddlecombe and why he left. It is not a surprise that this is the case as then, as now, police authorities were more concerned with finance, capital projects and the maintenance of the estate including sinking a well at Guildford police station.

In addition to being a licensee who rented out horses and carriages, Biddlecombe became the clerk of the course at Chertsey racecourse and was to become a private detective again establishing a future trend being the first generation of ex-police officers to move into the security industry. Biddlecombe worked on some influential cases including being retained by Titchbourne family to find the true identity of the claimant (Orton). Biddlecombe identified the true identity of the false claimant but was unable to convince Lord Onslow. (See below)

There are some bald facts about his life that can be found within the Family History indexes and the records of the Hampshire Constabulary:[25]

William Biddlecombe[26] served in the Isle of Wight Constabulary and Southampton Police before joining Hampshire on 18th March 1840. His combined service in IOW and Southampton was 4 years.

His Hampshire[27] service was for just under six months as he resigned on the 14th September 1840 'having been appointed High Constable and Inspector of Police at Godalming in Surrey'. (Godalming Borough Police was formed in January 1836 and incorporated within the county in 1851. The Force was re-established in1858 and again amalgamated with the Surrey Constabulary on the 1 April 1889.)

When joining Hampshire Biddlecombe was posted to Petersfield on the 3rd May 1840 when he was described:

> 5' 10'' Fair complexion, blue eyes, light brown hair, good build, single, born Gatecombe, Newport, Isle of Wight, a Labourer living in Southampton[28]

In the 1841 census, taken on 6 June 1841, William Bidelcome (sic) is living in Ockford Road, Godalming. He is shown as a policeman, living with his wife, Harriett, both aged 25 years.

The 1851 census, taken on 30 March 1851, has William H. Biddlecombe living on Reigate High Street with his wife, daughters Kate 6, Mary 4 and son Alfred John 1, all born in Godalming. Living with them are Ruth Biddlecombe, his 67-year-old mother, and Esther Trigg their 15 years old housemaid. He is shown as 'Chief Supt of Surrey Constabulary, born in Gatcombe, Hants. His wife and their maid were both born in Liss, Hants. (There was an Alfred Biddlecombe who joined the Surrey Constabulary in 1858 retiring in 1890 – not the son as he would only be 9)

[25] John Molyneux February 2011
[26] Ch Insp Clifford Williams Hampshire Constabulary8 June 2011 – email to author
[27] Ch Insp Clifford Williams Hampshire Constabulary8 June 2011 – email to author
[28] Ch Insp Clifford Williams Hampshire Constabulary8 June 2011 – email to author

In the 1861 census he is innkeeper of the Swan, Windsor Street, Chertsey aged 45 and living with his second wife, Elizabeth, 34 born at Araton, Isle of Wight. Daughters Kate and Mary are still living at home together with their 7-year-old sister Alice, who was born at Reigate.

The death index for the second quarter of 1855 records the death of Harriett Biddlecombe (Chertsey, book 2a, page 17). This is probably the right one but without the death certificate, it is not possible to be certain. At the end of this document are a few paragraphs of research undertaken by family historian John Molyneux.

Operationally Biddlecombe was very effective and in the term used in national newspapers when his cases were reported, extremely active. From all the evidence it is obvious that he was an able man and a careful and successful detective.

In the time just before Biddlecombe arrived in the county Godalming Borough Police were responsible for an area larger than the town and included villages as distant as Shere. Sheep stealing was rife in the Shere district during the years 1830 to 1840. The parish constables were unable to cope and additionally horses and sheep disappeared in the south of the county of which most found their way to London.

One of the gang's meeting places was The White Horse Inn, Shere and it was not uncommon to see a great deal of poached game on the premises as the men enjoyed themselves. They appeared immune from punishment but then two of the gang took to housebreaking at a large house at Wonersh. A constable from Godalming believed to be Biddlecombe traced the men concerned to an inn in Sussex. Enlisting the help of local harvesters, they came across the suspects and joked with them and somehow Biddlecombe persuaded them to allow him to handcuff them. Once handcuffed the men were arrested for breaking into Squire Spark's house, taken to Guildford where they were convicted.

Parish constables sometimes undertook duties for long periods for example James Stedman at Pirbright from 1812-1837. There were paid constables at Shere, Thomas Williams, with Peter Pearce at Shamley Green supervised by Superintendent Biddlecombe of Godalming. There were also paid constables stationed at Farnham, Dorking, Chertsey, Chobham, Thorpe, Windlesham and Nutfield who in time joined the Surrey Constabulary not that many survived very long within a disciplined service. Inspector Donaldson who was murdered in Haslemere in 1855 served as superintendent of police in Dorking. He had seen service in the Metropolitan Police before coming into the new police force at the rank of Inspector. [29]

The first murder so far traced in the records involving Biddlecombe occurred on the 28 March 1844 involved the murder of a gamekeeper at Wonersh.[30]At the Surrey Spring Assizes in

[29] Durrant page 3
[30] The Morning Post (London, England), Thursday, March 28, 1844; Issue 22841. 19th Century British Library Newspapers: Part II.

Kingston on the 27 March James Elsley was charged with the wilful murder of James Edwards a gamekeeper, in Wonersh by the Wey and Arun Canal. The body was discovered in the canal the following morning and the alarm was raised. Good local information was soon uncovered leading to Charles Jenkins, described as an Inspector of Police stationed at Shere accompanied by Chief Constable of Godalming William Biddlecombe and most likely Jenkins senior officer, went to the home of the suspect. He was detained and taken to the Jolly Farmer at Bramley. The officers returned to the house and searched it recovering a newly washed smock with what appeared to be blood on it and other clothing. Both the officers undertook a detailed examination of the prisoner and could find no evidence of him having been involved in a fight. Elsley was arrested and taken to Guildford where he was detained on the Saturday night by Inspector Charles Hollington who was the officer in charge of the Guildford Borough Police. Hollington left an unemployed labourer to watch over the prisoner who on the Sunday confessed to him the killing of James Edwards – he had hit the gamekeeper with his rifle but and kicked him into the river. The labourer did not tell anyone of the confession and when on Monday Hollington saw the prisoner, he again confessed. The inspector then went to Elsey's home and recovered two pheasants from where the prisoner had said they were. The jury took twenty minutes to find the prisoner not guilty of murder but manslaughter and this married man, father of five or six children was transported for life to Australia from Woolwich, along with 223 others, aboard the Agincourt on 6 July 1844. He arrived at Norfolk Island on 9 November 1844. By all accounts Norfolk Island Penal Colony was a horrifying brutal place and it was closed in 1855, when surviving convicts were sent to Tasmania.

Burglary was not too rare but when large houses or prominent people were involved the press wrote in great detail about the crime and the resulting enquiry. In 1845[31] such a burglary occurred in Lewes: The hunt for the so-called Sussex burglars caused considerable excitement in Lewes particularly when news broke on the 12 March of their arrest in Hampshire by Biddlecombe the chief officer of Godalming Police. This active (over the years a term frequently used to describe him) officer's exertions led to the arrests. The prisoners were conveyed in handcuffs from Godalming by cart to Guildford, coach to Redhill before taking the train to Brighton followed by transfer to a fly for the final part of the journey to Lewes.
On March the 19th 1845 the men were found guilty of burglary and transported for ten years. The two women accomplices received prison sentences with hard labour. Biddlecombe was commended by the judge for showing great zeal and activity in the case and was rewarded twenty shillings in addition to his expenses and the two constables who assisted him in the pursuit of the prisoners should each receive five shillings.[32]

1846 October 27 South Eastern Gazette[33] Biddlecombe – burglary Ash plus theft of sheep: William Glazier, William Smallpiece and Charles Dawes o the night 13 October stole in Ash and Normandy a pair of pincers and a quantity of nails the property of John Stedman the elder.

[31] The Times
[32] The Morning Post (London, England), Thursday, March 20, 1845
[33] 1846 October 27 South Eastern Gazette

Superintendent Biddlecombe said he had a clear charge of burglary against the whole of the prisoners who were part of a gang of seven known to him. Three months hard labour.

1846 November 10: Mayford Biddlecombe and Hollington sheep stealing[34] Mayford – on Wednesday last Mr W H Biddlecombe, superintendent of the Godalming borough police, in consequence of information he had received, searched the river running from Mayford to near Guildford and by the aid of sticks and poles pointed with iron, he found one of the large coppers recently reported to have been stolen from the premises of Mr John Marratt and for the discovery of which a reward of £15 was offered. On the morning of the following day Mr Biddlecombe accompanied by Mr Constable Hollington, superintendent of Guildford police proceeded to Farnham and searched the broker's shops there. They succeeded in finding several parts of the other copper but the greater part had been forwarded to Southampton. Mr Biddlecombe is in possession of information which implicates some persons already undergoing punishment for another offence; and to who a portion of clothing was found which had been taken from a shop at Bisley which was entered and the articles in question, with a quantity of provisions stolen. They also formed a party belonging to a regularly organised gang of sheep stealers of whom three were tried at the last Kingston Sessions and convicted, and all of them were sentenced to fifteen years transportation. They had long infected the neighbourhood of Woking, Weybridge, Worplesdon and the western parts of Surrey, and by the confession of one of the parties implicated they had stolen two sheep every week for the last eight weeks before their apprehension by Mr Biddlecombe. In fact, this fellow has confessed that half the stolen sheep in the county of Surrey were stolen by this gang. Great credit is due to Mr Biddlecombe for his activity in searching out these midnight depredators, who were a pest to the farmers of Surrey**.** [35]

Surrey Quarter Sessions 1840

The Surrey Quarter Sessions, the decision-making body for many aspects of local government before the county council, had decided as late as 1840 that there was no need for rural police. The larger town of Guildford formed a force in 1836 and was very similar in status and organisation with Dorking and Godalming. This was all to change extremely quickly.

On the 26 September 1850 the Reverend George Hollest was murdered in his bedroom. Burglars entered the house at night in Frimley and shot the vicar who later died. George Hollest fired at the fleeing burglars with a loaded pistol he always kept close at night as there was fear of burglars. In a further article the activities of a large and dangerous gang of burglars who operated at this timer across Surrey and Sussex will be explored in a further article.

As there was no local police force Superintendent Biddlecombe was brought in from Godalming Borough Police to help the local magistrates. (The force consisted of less than a

[34] South Eastern Gazette *10 November 1846*
[35] South Eastern Gazette 10 November 1846

handful of men!) Men were arrested and two of the four were acquitted and two men hung in Southwark. This is an important crime and event as the outcry that followed led to the formation of the Surrey Constabulary It is clear from the careful actions of Biddlecombe at the scene that he was aware of the principles established by Vidocq a French former criminal who was the founder of the French Surete who valued data and records and is credited with encouraging early studies in fingerprinting, ballistics and crime scene analysis. In 1845 Vidocq's book "Memoirs" in English translation had been the talk of London and it is very likely that his work had an influence on an ambitious detective such as Biddlecombe.

Vidocq wrote: "The minute exactitude had been observed in removing the body. Nothing had been neglected which might lead to the discovery of the assassins. Accurate impressions were taken of the footmarks, buttons and fragments of paper dyed in blood were carefully collected." Not relevant at this stage of the life of Biddlecombe but of interest. In the Surrey Constabulary Library at HQ in 1864 was "Memoirs of Fouche", Minister of the French Police in 1825 – two volumes.

In more detail this case gives an indication of policing in the county pre- Surrey Constabulary and does indicate that there was a level of co-operation and from the response that such events were rare. However rare murder may have been this one impacted on the higher social levels of the county and sent shivers down the spines of the establishment. On the **9 October 1850: The Times** reported the inquest where Sergeant Kendall of the London detective police said he was involved in the case but had arrived after Inspector (sic) Biddlecombe of the Godalming Police. Superintendent (sic) Biddlecombe gave evidence which included details of the crime and suspects. Inspector Charles Hollingworth (sic – should be Hollington and he styled himself superintendent) of the Guildford Borough Police arrested the suspects and it was reported that Inspector (sic) Kendall had noted bloodstained footprints in the doorway of the vicarage and, when searching the suspect's premises bloodstained stockings were recovered. (Rank seems to be arbitrary!) As a result of this case, it is reported that Kendall was promoted Inspector in the Metropolitan Police.

Biddlecombe said that he had been directed by the magistrates to go to Frimley where he arrived at about 5pm on the Saturday evening. He examined the Hollest house and found entrance had been gained by breaking a pane of glass in the scullery window and afterwards cutting away an iron bar. He found two holes that had been cut with a centre-bit in the scullery door opposite a bolt which had been forced back with a crooked instrument, and entry gained to the kitchen. In the kitchen he found two cupboards had been broken into. He compared a screwdriver which he received from the deceased's man servant, Richard Gyles, with those marks found on the cupboard and had no doubt they were caused by this instrument. He found one of the double doors from the kitchen to the dining room had been forced as had a door from the dining room to the front passage. There were marks of the same screwdriver on these doors. Biddlecombe found two right shoeless footmarks in the gravel drive and found traces of someone having been standing under a tree in the drive from where he recovered a piece of blue worsted. There were also marks in the gravel thought to be from an arm where someone had fallen.

Caroline Hollest 27 September 1850 0300: "I noticed an increase of light in the room but could not perceive how it was occasioned". There were curtains around the bed but they were open at the foot. Reaching from her bed to ring for the servant she was grabbed by a masked man. As she tried to scream a second man grabbed the Rev and the men were warned by the armed men to be silent or they would have their brains blown out. However, both continued to struggle.

Mrs Hollest was forced to the floor in the narrow space between bed and wall. Unable to see her attacker she was struck by his distinctive squeaky voice. She then heard a pistol fired and she struggled to reach her husband whilst one of the burglars hung onto her around the waist pushing a pistol into her side. The burglar caught his food on the washstand and tripped and Mrs Hollest was able to ring the bell and raise the alarm and the intruders began to flee.

Rev Hollest went to his dressing room to fetch his handgun which he always kept loaded there and pursued the intruders out through the front of the house. Mrs Hollest watched from an open window as the three men ran out to join a fourth – one turned and looked directly at her and she took fright and withdrew slamming shut the window. A few minutes later her husband returned and calmly informed her "The fellow has shot me" Mrs Hollest saw that he was bleeding from the stomach and her servant Giles was dispatched to fetch both the local surgeon and constable.

Dr Davies found the Reverent in bed, in good spirits not fearing he would die. He discovered a gunshot wound about an inch below the navel and realised the injury was very serious indeed and the doctor stayed with him until he died at 1pm the following day. Dr Davies undertook the PM and recovered a marble from the abdomen.

An insight to the protocol of using officers from other parts of the county is usefully revealed in a newspaper report of October 181850: "In Surrey which is a county only partially protected by police a county magistrate Mr Austin was at Frimley soon after the murder and there saw superintendent of the Godalming police and he asked him if he was making any enquiries into the matter. His reply was that he was a private officer paid by a committee from a private fund and that he had no authority or jurisdiction. Mr Austen being on the committee immediately gave him instructions to act in the matter and he then took the necessary steps; but the want of proper authority on the spot was that 16 hours elapsed before any policeman was engaged in endeavouring to detect the guilty parties."

With good and persistent detective work no doubt helped by the £150 reward four men were arrested in Guildford by Hollington. The two Harwood brothers Levi and Samuel 25 years and 29, James Jones and Richard Fowler also known as Hiram Smith. Smith turned Queen's evidence and so much was learnt.

(It is interesting that Hollington arrived at the scene uninvited and was to fall out with Biddlecombe to the point they did not speak which was to be very awkward as when the new constabulary was formed, they would both join and Biddlecombe was to be the senior.)

The criminals were to go to a prize fight at Frimley and decided to call at the vicarage Grove House, on the way there on the pretext of selling plates. The housemaid bought nothing and refused them food when asked at which point the men became angry. Later that week the four men met in Guildford and travelled independently to Frimley about ten miles away. The Harwood brothers brought the pistols and close to the house loaded them with a stone marble, and the men all put on masks.

It should be remembered that these men were hardened and very experienced and violent criminals with at least one other murder thought to have been committed by them along with a very large series of extremely violent burglaries. The attack on the vicarage was one of a series where reverent gentlemen's houses were attacked at night.

The house was entered via small scullery window squeezing the smallest though bars and that man then drilled out the central bar. The house was searched for desirable property, took food from the pantry, a gold watch, several silver items, coins, clothing and anything else they thought would receive a reasonable price. They drank wine and even filled a decanter and took it outside to one of the gang who was on watch.

The men then moved upstairs where the Hollests were attacked.

As the men ran off, they dropped much of the stolen property but managed to keep hold of a bag of coins. The coins were from a collection for the local school and contained some recognisable tokens.

The arrests were made by Hollington on the Sunday after the burglary.

Inspector sic – should be sergeant) Kendall from the Metropolitan Police had also been to the scene and noted bloodstained footprints on the doorstep of the vicarage. On searching the prisoner Levi Harwood's lodgings, a bloodstained stocking was found and his right foot had several small cuts. It was confirmed by Smith that they had taken their shoes off before entering the house.

(There was a large reward on offer for the arrest and conviction of the burglars and the officers would have recognised even if such a reward had not yet been made public and Borough officers were eligible to claim the money. This entitlement ceased once the constabulary was formed and any rewards eventually went into the pension fund.)

The men pleaded not guilty at the assizes but two were found guilty and hung at Horsemonger Lane gaol which was in The Borough just south of The Thames and was r Surrey's principal prison and place of execution up to its closure in 1878. It was a common gaol, housing

both debtors and criminals, with a capacity of around 300 inmates. In total, 131 men and four women were executed there between 1800 and 1877, the gallows being erected on the flat roof of the prison's gatehouse.

Just before he was executed Levi Harwood confessed to pulling the trigger.

Such was the outcry just a few weeks following this horrendous crime that on the 25 October 1850 the Rural Police Committee met at Reigate taking evidence from Superintendent Biddlecombe and the chief constable of Hampshire. Biddlecombe covered an area of 28,940 acres with a population of 10,126 with only one felony in his district over the last twelve months, stealing faggots to the value of sixpence. However, he had been sent for to deal with twelve burglaries in surrounding districts in the last six months. There had been no cases of felony in Godalming itself during the last five years. Considering how long it would take to establish it is worthy to note at this date he put in a bid for plain clothes officers as detectives, but that is a long story and will be told in the future.

Acting at high speed the new Surrey Constabulary was established on the 1 January 1851 and incorporated the smaller forces within the county and covered all parts of Surrey not within the Metropolitan Police District. William Henry Biddlecombe was appointed to the new force as one of five superintendents, designated chief superintendent, and a few weeks later 0n the 15 February 1851, Hollington was appointed a superintendent.

Old enmities come to the surface as the aggrieved former chief officer of the Borough took exception to Biddlecombe receiving credit for resolving the Frimley Murder where he thought it was not due. Interestingly, Hollington refers to Biddlecombe as "detective."

1851 26 April Letter to The Times[36] from Superintendent Charles Hollington Superintendent of the Guildford Borough Police – letter dated 24 April by which time he was in the Surrey Constabulary.

Superintendent Hollington felt aggrieved that "that the whole credit of breaking up the "Frimley Gang" was due to Mr Biddlecombe." Hollington asserted he arrested six of the men.

> "Levi Harwood. James Jones alias Burbage (hung for the murder of Mr Hollest) Samuel Harwood, Hiram Smith alias Trowler (the approver in the Frimley case) Thomas Toots alia Morgan and John Hillyer – the two latter were transported for life for the Uckfield burglary. These men I arrested entirely on my own suspicions.
>
> "How is it the whole credit is due to Mr Biddlecombe that he did not apprehend some of them as it was well known that one of the rendezvous of the Uckfield gang was Hindhead a little below Godalming where Biddlecombe was located?

[36] The Times online Article CS50889882

The man Levi Harwood I had convicted nine years ago; he then had one year's hard labour, since which time I have had several summary convictions against him for assaulting the police etc. I also apprehended Jones on March the 13th 1850 on suspicion of a burglary at Mr Horne's linen draper Guildford (whose house was broken into on the 14 February in the same year) and found property belonging to Mr Horn's housekeeper upon him. He was committed to the Guildford borough sessions but owing to a month having elapsed between the burglary and apprehension, and the prisoner stating he had bought the property, the jury ignored the bill. At the same time, I apprehended a man named George Brisk, a companion of both Levi Harwood and Jones, and found property in his house the produce of several burglaries in the county. He was committed to the assizes at Kingston, where he was tried and sentenced to seven years transportation.

I beg further to state that I have on several occasions named these men to Biddlecombe, detective, and other officers, as the ones I had suspected to have committed burglaries in Surrey and elsewhere.

By inserting this you will greatly oblige your most obedient servant Charles Hollington

Some weeks later, Morten a superintendent at Tunbridge Wells, also writes to the newspaper. He is also aggrieved that Biddlecombe is receiving credit when it was not totally justified. Morten who was not in a constabulary but a small-town police force in Kent, was entitled to rewards. Morten was, along with Hollington and Biddlecombe, heavily involved in the investigation and arrests of a large gang of desperate criminals operating in Surrey and Sussex. It was some of these gang members who broke into the Frimley parsonage and murdered the Reverent Hollest.

(Morten was a few years later to abscond with Dadson the constable of Tonbridge Wells after a warrant was issued for their arrest for encouraging criminal activity – rewards were probably at the bottom of this.)

1851 9 June: The Standard Monday: To the editor from Superintendent Morten:
Sir, In justice to myself I beg leave to trespass on your most valuable time, as well as to be allowed a small piece in your column to contradict an assertion in your paper last April which is calculated to injure me in my profession as superintendent of police, it being well known that character and testimonials are of great importance to most men, but more in particular to persons who hold the responsible situation as superintendent of police. It is calculated to injure me by taking away that credit which is due, and the more in consequence of the extensive circulation of your paper which is well known to be read in most parts of the world.
The statement I allude to is under the head of the "Frimley Gang"; the paragraph concludes with the following words:

"At the last sitting of the magistrates the chairman of the bench publicly stated that the whole credit of the capture of these daring men and the exposure of their system were due to Mr Biddlecombe the superintendent of Surrey Police."

Now sir, being present at that sitting at Horsham I beg to give the exact words. Mr Dickens said, "The magistrates are desirous of expressing their active satisfaction with the persevering and praiseworthy conduct which you have manifested throughout these proceedings and they have felt great pleasure in acting upon your suggestions." The conversation was at the committal of Samuel Harwood, James Hamilton and John Isaacs. That compliment was paid to Mr Biddlecombe for having so well got up the case then before them; and I beg to inform you that it was entirely through me that the case was brought forward. I waited the two days at the trial of Samuel Harwood, Levi Harwood, and Samuel Jones charged with the Frimley murder, to have apprehended them all three if they had been acquitted of the murder of Mr Hollest, upon a charge of burglary, with extreme violence at the house of Mrs Stoner, Kirdford, Sussex, there being no other person in attendance although others were in possession of the same information as I was. I made the case known to Superintendent Biddlecombe who agreed to assist me if all three were acquitted. Samuel Harwood being the only one acquitted I gave the case to Superintendent Biddlecombe.

I was the cause of the apprehension of John Isaacs the captain of the gang; I was the cause of James Hamilton, alias Butcher, being detained on a charge of burglary at Miss Farncombe's with violence; as well as John and James Smith alias Hones, both of whom were transported for life. Joseph Carter alias Cockman I apprehended in a hut on Woking Common; and William Brooks alias Hayler I apprehended on the Right Honourable Lord Norton's barn at Woodhams, Chertsey, Surrey, both of whom were transported for life. E Oliver alias Cockman I also apprehended, who is transported for being a receiver in the above offence, for 14 years, and two others named Edwards were apprehended charged with being receivers by Mr Dudson, constable of Tunbridge Wells who was connected with me in the affair.

So, you will perceive that I have been the cause of detaining and apprehending eight of that gang of desperate characters who have so long infested the counties of Surrey and Sussex and other counties. I think the following rewards and gratuities which have been received by men in conjunction with Mr Dudson will, I trust, be sufficient to suffice and to show to whom the credit is due.

In addition to a reward, we received from the judge at the trial a subscription was raised in my district and the sum of £45 was presented to me and £25 from the Uckfield Prosecution Society; £25 from the re. Owen Emerie Vidal of Upper Dicker, Horsebridge near Hailsham, Sussex; £5 from the Misses Farncomb (sic) of Uckfield, in addition to the reward they offered through the society; £5 from Mrs Hurat of the Five Bells Inn, Chorley; £2 from Mr Wood , butler to the Misses Farncomb (sic) who it will be remembered was so near to being murdered by the gang; £2 from Mr Baker of

Portslade, Sussex who also was a sufferer; and £1 from Captain Wetherall of Forest House, Hartfield, Sussex and a promise of other rewards from societies that have not yet had their meetings.

The above are facts that cannot be denied. I have not done this to come in contact with Mr Biddlecomb (sic) who I have known for some years to be a good officer but at the same time I feel it my duty to beg of you to allow the statement to be contradicted, to claim that which every man is entitled to, the merit his perseverance deserves.

It having been argued by several persons who have not been thoroughly acquainted with the circumstances, that Mr Biddlecombe was entitled to the whole of the credit which I feel bound to deny, trusting you will insert this so that the public may be in possession of the true facts.

I remain Sir, your obedient servant **W M Morten, Superintendent of Police,** Tunbridge Wells, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells, Kent June 6, 1851

Following the acquittal following the Frimley Murder trial some of the men appeared before Horsham Court for the final act for unravelling of the gang. As noted above, this gang with more detail will be the subject of a further article.

On April 15 1851: Samuel Harwood, one of the persons charged with the murder of the Rev. G Hollest and who was acquitted on Tuesday 1st inst., at Kingston was brought before the magistrates at Horsham, Sussex charged with James Hamilton, one of the Uckfield burglars by Mr Biddlecombe the active superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary with having broken and entered the dwelling house of Mrs Harriet Stoner of Kirdford, Sussex on the 4th of June last, together with James Jones, Levi Harwood (now under sentence of death in Horsemonger-lane (sic) Gaol for the Frimley murder) John Stones alias Smith (transported for life for the Uckfield burglary) and John Isaacs. It appeared from the statement of Mrs Stoner that on the day in question her house was entered at about three o'clock in the morning by six men from 20-30 years of age, each with a mask on and five with their shirts outside their other clothes. One had a dark round frock on, another had a pair of dirty yellow trousers with a dark stripe up the outside seam; two of them held her down in the passage each presenting a pistol to her head and threatened to blow her brains out unless she gave up her money. The mask fell off one who was of sallow complexion, about 28 years of age. Witness gave them her pocket in which were two canvas bags containing £7 10s in gold and £4 in silver, after which they left the place. James Hamilton one of the prisoners then made the following statement having been previously cautioned by the bench.

"Last spring was the first time I met with Isaacs. I met him on Farnham-common. He has no regular residence but lives in a travelling wagon. He came to me there. He had two donkeys. I bought one. He told me it was stolen. I afterwards sold it. He then planned it out to make a robbery at Kirdford near Petworth. He went to Guildford for two men to help and brought back three Levi Harwood, and the prisoner James Jones. Isaacs told me to meet them at a place called

Hidings Ball in Godalming (probably Hyden Ball) and bring their old clothes and a lanthorn (sic). They all five came and met me there making six of us. We agreed to go two at a time and meet in a wood between Radford and Ball's Cross. We all six met there. When night came two of us went forward to watch the place we intended to rob; the other four of which I was one remained behind until the two came back to us. We then all stripped and disguised ourselves and put on masks. We all went to the house on Cadford Common, the residence of Mrs Stoner. The Guildford men broke through the shutters and took out the whole frame of glass when one went in and let the others in. We all looked about to find the money but did not find any. They then went into the kitchen and found the stair-foot door fastened. Mrs Stoner heard us then and said, "Who is there?" Several of them burst upon the door and we all ran upstairs. Mrs Stoner screamed and ran into another room. Isaacs took hold of her to stop her noise when his mask slipped off. She then gave one of the men her pocket. I only had 3s 6d. We parted and I did not see the Guildford men anymore. This was the first time I was led into it"

In order that the magistrates might consider whether they would accept Hamilton as an approver (informant) against Harwood, the enquiry was adjourned.[37] They were on Saturday again examined before the magistrate at Horsham, Mr W Biddlecombe, chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary requested an adjournment of the case in consequence of a communication he had received that morning that John Isaacs had been apprehended in Somersetshire, whom he believed to have been concerned in the Kirdford burglary and also the Uckfield burglary. If a remand were granted, he should be able to place Isaac in the dock with other prisoners. The statement of Hamilton was then read which fully corroborated the evidence of Mrs Stoner and disclosed the evil doings of himself and his associates. The man Isaacs is one of the eight men who entered the house of the Misses Farncombe and it is stated he was one of the gang involved in the Frimley murder.

1851 January 21: Appointments and postings [38] Mr Biddlecombe, late superintendent Godalming, has been appointed by Captain Hastings as his chief officer. The following are the Superintendents at a salary of £85 each; Messrs Codd, late Staffordshire Police; Casey late Staffordshire Police; Hughes; Northumberland; Hollington; Guildford; and Sergeant (sic: should read Sargent) late of Essex and now of the Bath Police.

Inspectors; Messrs High, late sergeant Mr Biddlecombe; Wilson, Thorpe; Benham, Chertsey; Collins. Chobham; Bidwell, Wales; Donaldson Dorking and Radley Essex.

Fifty constables have been appointed and great care has been taken by Captain Hastings to secure officers from the forces in different parts of the country as well as the metropolis. A further selection will take place on Thursday; there is no lack of candidates.
We understand that Mr Biddlecombe will be stationed at Reigate and will take the Dorking Division. The services of this officer are too well known to need any comments; no time is at present named for the force to commence operations.

[37] Daily News (London, England), Wednesday, April 9, 1851
[38] 1851 South Eastern Gazette 21st January

In March 1851 Biddlecombe and his family were living in Reigate but there is a general order dated 10 July 1851, Superintendent Biddlecombe is posted to the Chertsey Division.[39] The force appointment book shows:

1 Jan 1851: Superintendent at £170 per annum, including forage for the county horse and allowance for clothing.

Daily News Tuesday October 21, 1851: Attempted burglary Addlestone: T Collier 25 and J Tovey 25, were indicted for attempting to break into the house of Sarah Willis 72, who lived alone in near the Addlestone railways station. Mrs Willis lived on an annuity that was passed to the hand of a lady for safety. On Saturday night the 20th ult., she went to bed and after about three hours she heard the sound of breaking glass. She got out of bed and struck a light and went to the window where she saw some faces. One of the men believed Collier called out "Give us some money or it will be the worse for you." She told them to go about their business but they refused to do so and they started to force the door open. She put a piece of iron against the door to prevent them breaking it open. She noticed a knife coming through the shutter and took up a candlestick and pushed against it to stop it coming any further. With one hand she held the candlestick and with the other the shutter. She told them to remember the Frimley murder and to go about their business. They again demanded a sovereign, a half sovereign or half a crown and she told them she had none but offered a shilling if they would go away. Mrs Willis threw out a shilling and some bread and cheese. She was positive she knew Collier as he lived with his parents in the next cottage. Mrs Willis "You bad boy Tom, go away." They said, "No we shan't, we want more." She then threatened them with a dagger and they went away.

Walter Ayling one of the Surrey Police said he watched the prisoners from a beer-shop on the night in question to the prosecutrix. They crossed a hedge and went to the back of the house where he followed them and hid in an outhouse close by from where he could observe all their actions. He then saw then trying to break open the door when Mrs Willis came to the window and asked them what they wanted. "Money and if she would not make a noise, they would not hurt her." They then broke several panes of glass when the old lady them to go round and she would give them some money. The police officer followed them but they ran away but he chased and captured Tovey whom he took at Collier's house. While standing there, Collier came home and having sent for the superintendent they were both taken to the police station.
Superintendent Biddlecombe of the Surrey police said he examined the old lady's house afterwards and found the back door broken very much as if the thieves intended to force the lock back by wrenching it off the bottom board. The shutters were also very much cut and the marks corresponded with the knife found on Collier. The verdict of Guilty was returned. A former conviction against Tovey having been proved he was sentenced to 10 years transportation and the other prisoner to 12 months hard labour

[39] Surrey Constabulary General Orders Book 1 1851-

The chairman told them that had it not been for the courageous old lady they would have entered her house and might have succeeded in committing a crime similar to that in another r part of the county for which two men suffered recently.

Within Biddlecombe's new division there was to be a case that attracted a great deal of publicity and again shows a great deal of co-operation between police forces. On the 17 October 1852 there was to take place the last duel in England. On a Tuesday in October, on Priest Hill walking towards Egham, Dr Hayward of Egham passed a number of Frenchmen. One directed the doctor to a friend who had been shot in an accident. The dying man was taken to the Barley Mow Inn where he later died. William Biddlecombe arrived and on searching the body found a pistol ball. Searching the friend who had alerted the doctor, Edmund Allain, a Frenchman, he found a powder flask, nine bullets and some percussion caps. The Metropolitan Police on arriving as requested at Waterloo railway station found a group of French émigrés who were aware of the duel. As the train arrived the police detained three more Frenchmen, along with two swords, a pistol case and knife on which there appeared to be blood. The pistols were eventually recovered – they had been hired. Four Frenchmen appeared at Kingston Assizes where they were found guilty of manslaughter although one was later hung after committing two murders. The victim Courner was buried in Egham Churchyard.[40] Durrant records in his book an interesting list of property, a powder flask, nine bullets, some copper caps, paper and seals, two swords and three keys. The men were sentenced to two months in the County Goal.[41] Biddlecombe was on the scene and later arrested one of the Frenchmen[42]

The second murder was a more difficult affair but was to give grounding for a greater tragedy during the following year. On the **21 March 1853: The Times reported that** Mary Ann Temple aged thirty-six was charged with the wilful murder of her female illegitimate child by suffocating it. When the child was born, she tried to have a Mrs. Humphries take over the child but she was unhappy with the story given by Temple and said "No." Mr. **Biddlecombe**, Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary, **Chertsey** became aware of the attempt to part with her child and visited Temple and found the child dead. She was found guilty of manslaughter and transported for fifteen years. The Judge: "The crime of infanticide was greatly on the increase- judges go to any county and find two or three cases on their list." Therefore, he sentenced more harshly. There had been another murder of a child from Albury in Guildford during April 1851 when the father of the illegitimate child was hung professing his innocence and the guilt of the mother.

June 14, 1853 The Morning Post reported that the Metropolitan Police were moving on to Chobham Common. "Yesterday morning instructions were received by the Commissioner of Police from the Home office to send a number of efficient constables immediately to **Chobham** to perform duty near the military camp now forming in that locality. In consequence of such instructions the superintendents of the various divisions received orders to send without

[40] Janaway P 83 and Durrant page 13
[41] Durrant P 13
[42] 28 Oct 1852 The Times

delay 20 men and two sergeants from the reserve force of each division who will be under the direction of three inspectors. The men mustering at one o'clock yesterday afternoon with all their clothing and necessaries at their respective station houses and after being inspected by their superintendents marched off to the South-Western railway station where a special train was in readiness to take them to Chertsey from which station, they were taken to Chobham in covered vans. Lodgings have been procured for the men and temporary police stations erected around the encampment so that every precaution has been taken to prevent the light-fingered corps from following their avocation with much success. On field days and review extra men belonging to the detectives will do duty with them. The Secretary at War has issued orders that all men so employed shall have extra pay. The inspectors 4 shillings a day the sergeants receiving two shillings and the constables one shilling a day in addition to their regular pay. They will remain on duty at Cobham until the encampment is broken up. The Surrey Constabulary under Mr Superintendent Biddlecombe attached to that district will also be reinforced and assist the Metropolitan Police in preserving order and protecting property. A number of mounted police will patrol both day and night. (**Note:** There was to be a large gathering of the army on Chobham Common and was going to be a great public spectacle that would draw large crowds which in turn would attract the villain.)

Biddlecombe has a further mention in the national press in a report on the 25 Aug 1853 covering the races at Egham. The course was well kept by a small detachment from the Surrey Constabulary under the direction of Superintendent Biddlecombe and Inspector Holmes.[43]
At the Surrey Adjourned Session[44]on September 12, 1853 Superintendent Biddlecombe in evidence following a trial said that William Pantlin aged 22 years convicted of stealing wood was a very bad character. He was sentenced to six months.

It was not all crime although arson was considered but on Boxing Day 1853[45] there was a very large fire at the Royal Paper Mills in Esher close to the station causing the trains to be stopped. Damage of £100,000 pounds was caused and 250 people thrown out of work. Mr Superintendent Biddlecombe and Inspector Murtell with a body of police rendered great assistance by keeping the idlers out of reach of danger.

Although stationed at Chertsey Biddlecombe became involved in the investigation of a robbery in Farnham on the 13 March 1854. Spring Assizes Kingston on 28 March 1854 Frederick Mathews was indicted for highway robbery with violence in Farnham upon Caroline Payne and stealing a gold watch, £5 banknote, a gold chain and silver money of the value of £2 15s 9d. The injured person was walking in Farnham Park not far from the town when she received a blow with a stick rendering her unconscious and whilst in that condition was robbed. The prisoner was seen going towards the park not long before the robbery and Biddlecombe and Everett searched the suspect's room and found the stolen property. The man was arrested found guilty and sent to prison for fifteen years.

[43] The Morning Post (London, England), Thursday, August 25, 1853; pg. 5; Issue 24860
[44] 1853 September 13: The Standard
[45] The Morning Post (London, England), Monday, December 26, 1853; pg. 4; Issue 24965

Most police officers attend some horrendous crimes during their service but few can match the horror that awaited Biddlecombe at Esher on the 10 June 1854 the first multiple murder enquiry undertaken by the Surrey Constabulary when six children were murdered by their mother.

George Brough announced to Mary Ann his wife and mother of his children that he was leaving her because he suspected she had been cheating on him. He also said he intended to take their children away from her, setting into motion a series of terrible events. On June 10, the day after Mary Ann was confronted by her husband, a man walking by their home spotted a bloody pillow in the window. He raised an alarm and neighbours found Mary Ann inside, still alive, but with her throat slit. Bodies of six of her children lay scattered throughout the house their throats cut open. Mary Ann survived and was charged with six counts of murder. She confessed, telling investigators that she had used a razor on each child, one at a time. One child had protested and another had struggled, but she killed them all before attempting suicide.

On the 13 June 1854[46] before a coroner and jury at The Chequers Tavern, West End an inquest was held to enquire into the deaths of the **six Brough children.** Mr. **Biddlecombe,** chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary said following information from Inspector Martell he went to the house of Mrs Brough. On entering the back door and going into a room he found under the table a pair of woman's boots and bloody stockings. He went to the door and found that the bolt on the inside was all over blood as if handled with a bloody hand. He went upstairs and found a boy aged seven years on the bed with his face covered with blood. He was dead and his throat was cut. The wound was extensive and incised. There were lying at the foot of the bed Harriet and George both dead each with incised wounds to the throat. He passed to another room and found three more dead children with extensive wounds to the throat. In a third bedroom he saw Mrs Brough in bed and attended by a medical man. He could not speak with her but a few days later he was called back by Mrs. Brough and he took her statement.

CONFESSION OF THE MURDERESS

The following confession was made by the murderess, to Mr. Biddlecombe, chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary: "On Friday last, I was bad all day; I wanted to see Mr. Izod and waited all day. I wanted him to give me some medicine. In the evening I walked about, and afterwards put the children to bed, and wanted to go to sleep in a chair. About nine o'clock, Georgy (meaning Georgiana) kept calling me to bed. I came up to bed, and they kept calling me to bring them some barley water, and they kept calling me till nearly 12 o'clock. I had one candle lit on the chair. I went and got another, but could not see, there was something like a cloud, and I thought I would go down and get a knife and cut my throat but could not see. I groped about in master's room for a razor. I could not find one; at last, I found his keys, and then found his razor. I went up to Georgy and cut her first; I did not look at her. I then came to Carry and cut her. Then to Harry, he said, 'don't mother.' I said, 'I must' and did cut him. Then I went to Bill. He was fast asleep. I turned him over. He never awoke, and I served

[46] 13 June 1854 The Times

him the same. I nearly tumbled into his room. The two children here, Harriet and George were awake. They made no resistance at all. I then lay down myself." This statement was signed by the miserable woman. J. Harkness, Printer, 121, Church Street, Preston.[47]

Mary Ann Brough was found not guilty by reason of insanity[48]

Biddlecombe was fast becoming an expert in the murder of children which must be a sign of hard times and attitudes around agricultural shortages and illegitimacy. His next case again in 1854 on the 8 August, Biddlecombe dealt with the concealment of the birth of an illegitimate child.[49] Juries were however reluctant to convict the women of murder. Ann Berryman a well-dressed genteel looking young woman lived with her father near Chertsey where she earned a living as a dressmaker. In May it was thought by neighbours that she was in the family way and then she was back to normal. Superintendent Biddlecombe the superintendent of police at Chertsey became aware and spoke with the woman who admitted having a child prematurely and she did not murder the child but had burnt the body. Biddlecombe made a search of the garden where he found the partly burned body of the child which were examined by Mr Sherlock a surgeon who thought the baby to have arrived at maturity. There was discussion as to whether the child was born alive and this led to a not guilty verdict by the jury after a short discussion.

1856 Manslaughter Chertsey[50]: Following a quarrel on the 3 February between John Beauchamp a publican of the Coffeehouse in Chertsey and his wife during which Mrs Beauchamp was struck unconscious and later that day died. After the quarrel the defendant went and saw a chemist who came to the house and found Mrs Beauchamp deeply unconscious. Superintendent Biddlecombe was summoned to the house on the 5th February where he saw the prisoner and his unconscious wife and when he asked why a doctor had not been called, he was informed that Mrs Beauchamp was frequently drunk and unconscious. A surgeon was called and examined her and she was still unconscious. After she died a PM revealed organ damage indicating that she was addicted to spirits. The jury after a short deliberation found the defendant guilty of manslaughter and the judge thought this was the right verdict particularly as it was known he had struck his wife before and would be sentenced to four years penal servitude.

1856: Biddlecombe appeared at the Old Bailey to give evidence in a case of horse stealing valued at £18 from George Leggat by Alfred Dowers[51] Police Superintendent W H Biddlecombe gave evidence 30 November 1856 that he was riding a horse from Egham and saw the prisoner about a quarter of a mile from the field where the horse was stolen. He later went to the house of detention at Osborn where he pointed out the prisoner from 140-150

[47] Source: Curiosities of Street Literature, London, Reeves and Turner, 196, Strand, 1871.
[48] The Encyclopaedia of Mass Murder
[49] The Standard (London, England), Tuesday, August 08, 1854; Issue 9361
[50] The Times March 20 1856
[51] http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?id=t18570615-708&div=t18570615-708&terms=biddlecombe#highlight

others. The prisoner responded by saying that Biddlecombe "has sworn false." The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment.

Biddlecombe resigned, the resignation recorded 1858 5 May GO 140.[52] It is not known why this should be. No local papers are available in the archives, no mention is made in the national media archives and nothing is said in the police committee minutes. It is unlikely that he fell out with the Chief Constable as he was in his new career as a publican to provide horse and fly for the HMI during his visits to the county and there was contact with the force through his work as clerk of the course at Egham races. It may be and is probably likely that the Chief Constable felt he had been at Chertsey long enough and tried to move him but he did not want to move. Possibly the owners of The Swan made him an offer he could not refuse given the growing family responsibilities; it may have been he liked his horses and the opportunity to be a clerk of the course was too good to pass over. Having resigned, crime did not disappear from his life.

The Morning Post of the **4 August 1858** reports that at Guildford Assizes, Edward Morton was charged with **obtaining money by false pretences,** a sovereign, from Mr Biddlecombe of the Swan Inn formerly a very active police superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary. Simply, the man came to the inn pretending to be a vicar, said he was short of cash and Biddlecombe lent him the money. After his trial the con man was found guilty immediately by the jury and he was sentenced to 12 months hard labour.[53]

1858 November 13th on this date a court report appears where Biddlecombe's ostler at The Swan was a witness in a case of dog stealing[54]

The Surrey Advertiser reports on 16 July1864 that readers will remember the capture by the late superintendent of police Mr Biddlecombe of a clever burglar living quietly in Bristol under the name Captain Smith who made a desperate escape at Chertsey shortly before his capture. At Winchester Crown Court John Goodenough alias Smith alias Williams was charged with five burglaries in Hampshire and being at large before his fifteen years sentence to transportation had expired. The Judge said he would deal with the matter himself at the Central Criminal Court.[55] What was Biddlecombe up to? Was this a throwback from his time in the Force or was he working as a private detective for the wealthy and investigating a burglary?
On the 19 September 1864 Biddlecombe is reported at the Chertsey Autumn steeplechase[56] and in 1865 still licensee of the Swan Inn Chertsey and Clerk of the Course at the races in Chertsey. The arrangements for policing at the Chertsey racecourse were to lead to a falling out with the chief constable. Biddlecombe sought twelve men to keep the course clear and the chief constable agreed they could attend. The note responding to the request was sent the by route passed hand to hand by constables on the beat when they met an officer from an adjoining beat

[52] Surrey Constabulary General Orders Book 1 1851-
[53] The Morning Chronicle (London, England), Wednesday, August 4, 1858; Issue 28565
[54] The Morning Post (London, England), Saturday, November 13, 1858; pg. 3; Issue 26491
[55] http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm
[56] http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm

or station at a conference point; it arrived too late! Biddlecombe alleged he had suffered a loss because of this and took action against the chief constable to recover £19.19s but bigger questions were at stake i.e., could police be held responsible for non-attendance at an event etc. The case disappeared from the records and seems as if the chief constable made his point and the matter was dropped.

The Old Swan in modern times a 17th century coaching inn

On the **27 March 1865** the Dundee Courier & Argus [57] reported that Biddlecombe seems to have entered into something of a scandal or difficulty involving royalty: "Mr. W. H. Biddlecombe, landlord of the Swan Hotel, at Chertsey, and clerk of the course at the recent steeplechases there, contradicts the statement that the Prince of Wales lost his watch." Nothing else but it is intriguing.

Billeting soldiers in Chertsey was causing concerns to licensees including Biddlecombe reported in 1865 on 2 September in the Surrey Advertiser. Biddlecombe: who applied to the bench in hopes that the Quarter Sessions would offer some relief. No matter how busy their public houses and stables were, whenever soldiers were in the district the publicans had to provide billets and the allowances led to the making of a loss. [58]

Biddlecombe could not avoid crime but what he was doing working with the superintendent of the Windsor Borough Police in 1866 on the 21 September[59] investigating a fraud it is difficult to fathom unless he was being paid for his skills. Now retired Biddlecombe, reported as of the Swan Hotel and former superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary along with the chief superintendent of the Windsor Borough police were on the track of a fraudster who they found fishing in the middle of the Thames between Chertsey and Weybridge and took him into custody at Windsor. The fraudster was an ex-army officer cashiered in 1865 moving to a hotel in Paris where he adopted a new name and the rank of captain. After cashing false cheques, he decamped back to England where after a number of adventures and frauds he ended up before the bench in Windsor. Quite what the responsibility of Biddlecombe was is hard to judge.

The following references refer to items in the Surrey Advertiser: These are just for the years that have been indexed so there are likely to be more. What was Biddlecombe up to? There

[57] The Dundee Courier & Argus (Dundee, Scotland), Monday, March 27, 1865; Issue 3630
[58] 1865 on 2 September Surrey Advertiser
[59] The Hull Packet and East Riding Times (Hull, England), Friday, September 21, 1866; Issue 4261

was a local police force but he seems in parts to be taking on a formal role. Was he selling his expertise by working on his own for employment? There is little doubt these are references to the former superintendent although later there is another Biddlecombe who is likely to be his son.

16 September 1865: Reference to Biddlecombe, Chertsey and a domestic fire at confectioners[60]

In 1865 on the 23 December Biddlecombe is mentioned at an Inquest on boy who was run over in Chertsey when shown as a landlord. The nine-year-old named Hawkins should have been at school but was hit by a fly with a grey horse that did not stop at the scene. Enquiries were made by Sergeant Cornelius Bundy but no offender was caught. Biddlecombe hired a fly and grey horse but could show it was not his. [61]

1866 7 April: Biddlecombe appointed overseer. [62]

1866 23 June and 25 June 1866 Biddlecombe Swan Inn - landlord of The New Line Addlestone. [63]

1867 10 August: Biddlecombe v Gilkes solicitor Haynes. There had been a disturbance in the Swan and as a result Biddlecombe hurt his leg and tore his trousers and at the Chertsey County Court he was seeking £3.10s compensation. He was awarded ten shillings. [64]

1872 3 February: In a case Smith v Mayor of Godalming and others known as The Wharf case involving a claim that land was in the ownership of one person and the local authority were claiming rights over it. Biddlecombe was brought from retirement to recall when he was superintendent of police, he collected tolls for use of the land.[65]

There are also a series of entries in the late 1860s for Police, A Biddlecombe – William's son was Alfred and may connect but this would mean he was in time posted to Chertsey where his father was a publican and this does seem unlikely and may be a coincidence. There are doubts as John Molyneaux has discovered. "I have traced the son of W H Biddlecombe. In the 1861 census he is a boarder together with 52 other scholars at 83 Pescod Street, New Windsor which of course is not far from where his parents were living in Chertsey. In the 1871 census he is a merchant's clerk, boarding at 18 Judd Street, St. Pancras, Marylebone, London. He is Alfred John Biddlecombe."

[60] Newspaper Detective http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm
[61] http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm
[62] http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm
[63] http://www.newspaperdetectives.co.uk/surreyindex.htm
[64] Surrey Advertiser 8 October 1867
[65] Surrey Advertiser 3 February 1872

In Durrant's small book of 1951 on the 100th anniversary of the Surrey Constabulary there is mention that Biddlecombe from The Swan would hire carriages to carry the chief constable with the HMI from Weybridge to Chertsey. The book also comments that Biddlecombe was linked to the Tichborne case being employed by the family to find the true identity of the claimant. This he did but was unable to persuade Lord Onslow who was supporting the claimant of that fact. [66] The story concerns Roger Tichborne, disappointed in love who is then lost at sea, and a man who, more than a decade later, appears from the Australian outback claiming to be the missing heir. The civil and criminal trials which followed held the record as the longest court case in British legal history until the mid 1990s.

1873 11 August: The Standard: Biddlecombe advertises when living off the King's Road in south west London which is likely to mean he has departed from the licensing trade and gone back to being a detective a job he did well.


TWO NOBLEMEN, Proctors, Solicitors, and Others. —CONFIDENTIAL INQUIRIES made into matters of importance, with secrecy and discretion, in town and country, by W. H. BIDDLECOMBE (late Chief Superintendent of Surrey Constabulary), 164, Oakley-street, King's-road, S.W.

Biddlecombe began to advertise in The Standard during 1873 and 1874 when he joined forces with retired Chief Inspector Charles Field late of the Metropolitan Police and one of the most famous detectives of his day.[67] In 1855 Charles Dickens visited a group of detectives at Scotland Yard long before they became a part of the new CID. He was very impressed and wrote about the officers including Field who he referred to as Inspector Wield: "--a middle aged man of a portly presence with a large moist, knowing eye, a husky voice, and a habit of emphasising his conversation by the air of a corpulent fore-finger which is constantly in juxta-position with his eyes or nose."[68]

Dickens was to use Field as his model for Inspector Bucket in his novel Hard Times[69] and was well placed to establish himself as a private enquiry agent it being probably very beneficial for both Field and Biddlecombe to come together.


NOTICE.—The PRIVATE INQUIRY OFFICE established in 1852 by Mr. C. F. Field, late Chief Inspector of the Metropolitan Detective Police, and Mr. C. Nicholls, has secured the valuable ASSISTANCE of Mr. W. H. BIDDLECOMBE, late Chief Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary.—C. NICHOLLS, Principal, 33, Essex-street, Strand.

larger premises, 16, CORNHILL, (next door to Birch's).

NOTICE.—The SERVICES of Mr. W. H. BIDDLECOMBE (late Chief Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary) have been ADDED to the PRIVATE INQUIRY OFFICE, established in 1852 by Mr. C. F. Field, late Chief Inspector of the Metropolitan Detective Police, and Mr. C. Nicholls.—Offices removed from Devereux-court to 33, Essex-street, Strand.

[66] Durrant 1951 Surrey Constabulary 1851-1951 page 5
[67] 7 October 1873 The Standard et seq.
[68] The Scotland Yard Files Paul Begg and Keith Skinner 1992 page 43
[69] The Invention of Murder Judith Flanders 2010 page 178

At present nothing is known other than the Tichborne case of the career of Biddlecombe as a private detective but given the company he kept it was likely he was involved in a number of significant cases.

Possible family links[70]

Marriage: 1840 17 December Godalming: William Biddlecombe and Harriett Inwood (GRO ref 1840 Dec Guildford 4 16 name shown as Beddlecombe

1855: It is likely that his first wife Harriett died in Chertsey in 1855 GRO ref 2a17

1871 census: William H Biddlecombe is living at Ranvills Farm, Romsey, Hants, aged 56 born Gatcombe IoW with his wife Elizabeth aged 50, born Ripley, Surrey and daughter Alice, age 19, born Reigate, Surrey. His occupation is given as 'Farmer' of 185 acres with 4 labourers and a boy. There may be some link here with the term freeholder at his death.

1878: Possible death of a second wife Elizabeth in 1878 March Barnet 3a98 aged 57 (no trace of this marriage has been found)

1881 census: Biddlecombe a retired police superintendent born Gatcombe aged 66 is a widower living at 1 Victoria Villas, Victoria Road, Barnet with his sister Elizabeth, independent aged 75 born Gatcombe and his daughter Alice independent aged 27 born Reigate Family History: The death certificate gives an occupation of freeholder which is a surprise as it could be expected to say "Active former police superintendent"


458 | Twentieth April 1883 | 1 Victoria Villa Victoria Road East Barnet | William Henry Biddlecombe | Male | 68 Years | Freeholder | Cancerous Disease of Pharynx 4 months Certified | Alice Biddlecombe Daughter Present at Death Victoria Road East Barnet | Twenty-first April 1883 | Stephen J Baldock Registrar

Death Certificate[71] Barnet 20 April 1883, 1 Victoria Villa, Victoria Road, East Barnet. Daughter Alice present at death which was caused by cancer of the pharynx at the back of the mouth aged 68. Occupation given as freeholder

Afterthought: when a police house building programme was begun in the 1950's one was built for the Weybridge Superintendent and its first occupant, 'Dutchy' Holland had it named Biddlecombe after Surrey's first appointed officer. [72]

[70] Email to editor from John Molyneux 9 February 2011 and from Chris Atkins 15 February 2011
[71] Copy of death certificate from Mr Christopher Atkins QPM 15 February 2011
[72] Email to the editor from retired ACC Chris Atkins to editor 6 February 2011

Superintendent Edward Codd
City of London, Nottinghamshire. Staffordshire
Appointment 2 Surrey Constabulary 1851
One of the original superintendents
Superintendent Plymouth

Born British Guiana

From 1840 served City of London Notts and Staffs

Sworn as a member of the Surrey Constabulary on **25 January 1851,** 6 feet, 36 years appointed Superintendent at £55 pa. Served Guildford, Reigate

GO32 28 April 1851 advanced to rate of £90 per annum

GO 53 1 July 1851 appointed Reigate Division

GO104 1 Nov 1853 Superintendent Holmes to Reigate vice Codd resigned.

Resigned **October 1853** appointed superintendent Plymouth.

Death - Falmouth **22 Oct 1862** congestion of brain brought on by mental anxiety late Supt Plymouth son of Major Gen Edward Codd Governor C in C Barbados

Research Jennifer Tuffs

Edward Codd Background

Edward Codd was born in the West Indies around 1815, his father being Major General Edward Codd. [73] **1851 Edward Codd** is no 2 on the Surrey Constabulary Defaulters (Enrolment) Register. He is described as age 36 years, height 6ft, birthplace Staffs, **(sic)** joined on 9th January 1851 sworn 25 January, with previous occupations as surgeon and police. He served for 2 years and 9 months Resigning on 31ST October 1853 to take up a new post in Plymouth.

1829 15th December Major General Edward Codd died at Brompton. The Gentleman's Magazine published an obituary- Dec 15th at Brompton Major-Gen Edward Codd. He was appointed Ensign 60th Foot,1789, Lieutenant 1793, Captain 1795, Major 1800. During the whole of that period, he served with his regiment in North America and the West Indies until 1804, when he returned home on leave of absence. In October that year he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in his regiment. In 1808 he served in Spain and was engaged in the battle of Corunna. But he subsequently again served in the West Indies, and in 1816 he received the

[73] See death notice of 1862

thanks of the Houses of Assembly and Legislative Counsel at Barbados, for the suppression of an insurrection of slaves. He was promoted to be brevet Colonel in 1813, and Major-Gen in 1819, and had recently been appointed Superintendent in Honduras.

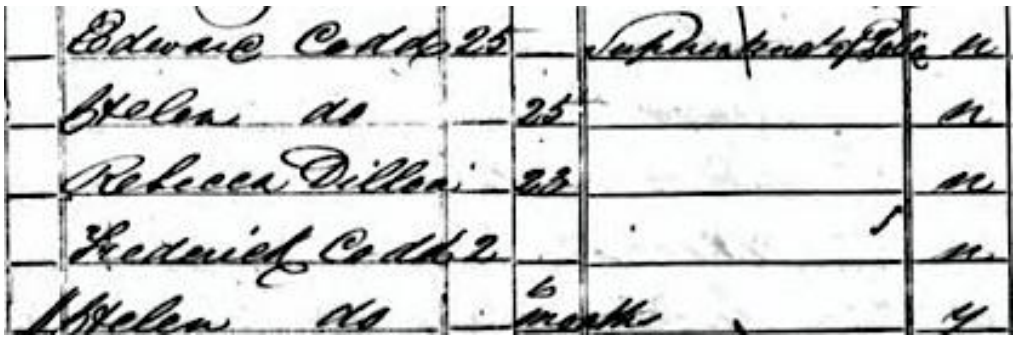
1829 31st December - probate was granted for Edward Codd, amongst his legacies was the sum of £2000 to his reputed and natural son Edward Codd. [74]

1835 29th June Henry Cruttenden Codd makes his will and states he was residing at 34 Sloane Street, Chelsea, with his brother Edward Codd a surgeon. He left a legacy to his mother Elizabeth Ross and the remainder of his estate to Edward Codd, the infant son of his brother Edward, which was to be laid out in public funds until his 21st birthday and if he were to die before this, it was to be shared between his sister Frances Hallam Codd and brother Edward Codd. He died in 1836 in Victoria, Spain and the will proven on 27th May 1836. (No trace can be found of the infant Edward in records)

1838 1st November Frederick Augustus Codd was born, he was baptised at St George Hanover Square on 25th November, Father Edward Codd, a surgeon and Mother Helen Linzee Codd. [75]

1840 27th November Helen Linzee Codd was baptised at St Mary Magdalane, Newark on Trent. Her parents were Edward Codd and Helen Linzee Codd.
By June 1841 when the census was taken, Edward Codd and family were living in Nottingham.

1841 Census North Muskham, Notts. lists Edward Codd aged 25 years Superintendent of Police, Helen Codd 25years, Frederick Codd 2 years all born out of county and Helen Codd 6 months born in county.



1841 16thJuly Stamford Mercury- James Camomile, keeper of a public house in Winthorpe was charged by Mr. E Codd Inspector of Rural Police, with keeping his house open on Sunday 27th June during the hours of divine service and also charged with abusing Inspector Codd and encouraging a riot in the streets on the same day. He was fined £5 with 9s 6d costs.

[74] Copies held at National Archive
[75] Helen Linzee Giles/Codd

1841 10th September Stamford Mercury Affray at Newark Races - Friday Sept 3RD- There was a most numerous assemblages of people on the ground at an early hour, and although the day was gloomy, the beaux and belles made a grand display. We are sorry to say there was a serious affray on the course between a number of rustics and the rural police, who were marched to the ground under Mr Codd, the Inspector, a fight took place and the staves of the rurals played upon the heads of the combatants until some of them were broken, handcuffs were then exhibited, which led to still greater irritation and the Inspector, Mr Codd was taken by the hands and legs and thrown over a hedge. The Newark Police were then called in to assist and peace was restored. Warrants have been obtained against the offenders.

1841 24th December Stamford Mercury Death - On 11th inst. at North Melksham Helen Linzee Codd aged 1year daughter of Mr. Codd Superintendent of the Rural Police

1842 8th July Nottingham Review and General Advertiser. A robbery took place on Sunday night at the Bleach Yard of Mr John Fox, the thieves stole 19 and a half dozen hose, the property of Richard Morley Esq., Mayor of Nottingham. Superintendent Codd and Inspector Potton apprehended James Pearson and George Marshall both of Daybrooke, who were remanded for further enquires.

The incident below was reported in many newspapers throughout the country including Caledonian Mercury 25th August 1842. Nottingham – A mob assembled in the town on Friday afternoon and made a desperate attempt to turn out the workmen at the factory of Messrs Riddle and Birkin of Newford. Mr Sherwin, a county magistrate proceeded to the spot and whilst he was reading the riot act an impudent insurgent tore it from his hand. A Detachment of soldiers was sent for and the crowd speedily dispersed. On Saturday after an unsuccessful attempt to intimidate workmen at Mr Berry's factory into a cessation of labour, the malcontents proceeded to Radfod, with the intention of compelling the colliers at Lord Middletons's pit to join them. The progress of the mob, which was about 500 in number was intercepted by two troops of the Queen's Bays and though they took to flight as soon as they glimpsed the military, 140 were enclosed and, of these 132 have been sent to the county jail and the rest discharged.

During the forenoon on Monday an assemblage of several hundred operatives who had not resumed work took place on Burton Leys and at about 12 o'clock proceeded on Arnold Road to meet a large force coming from Nottingham. At Sherwood three miles from the town the 2000 men from Arnold met the men from Nottingham and they were surprised by the appearance of the magistrates and a strong military force from the barracks. A general fight took place over hedge and field but two of the ring leaders were captured. One mile from town the dragoons filed off to the barracks leaving the prisoners in charge of the civil powers. The two men, handcuffed, walked quietly along, guarded by a constable, Slaney on foot and two Inspectors, Codd and Potton on horseback. On reaching the town a vast crowd assembled and on passing the Plough and Harrow Inn a cry of 'Rescue' was raised. Slaney instantly dragged his two prisoners to the inn door and the inspectors kept off the mob, although assailed by a shower of stones, brickbats, etc until the men were inside and the door secured. The horsemen being furiously stoned galloped off to the town Police Office, and a body of Policemen and

two magistrates were speedily at the inn. In a few minutes the military galloped up and cleared the streets. The prisoners along with a man who attempted their rescue, who was also apprehended were conveyed safely to the county jail.

1842 11th February Nottingham Review and General Advertiser - Henry Wombell of Maplebeck was committed to county jail at Nottingham for trial at the next Assizes for committing rape on Mary Ann Henfrey aged 6 years at Maplebeck. The prisoner was apprehended at Attercliffe near Sheffield by Superintendent Codd. (Wombell later found guilty of common assault and sentenced to 18 months hard labour).

1842 7th October Nottingham Review and General Advertiser. At noon on Monday some scamps descended in the area of the house of John Thackeray Esq, of New Radford and the Misses Stone of Park Side and stole a quantity of plate during the temporary absence of the servants. Superintendent Codd is investigating and no doubt remains in his mind that it was committed by some strangers who abound in the neighbourhood at the present time and are denominated "area sneaks"

1843 Charles Codd was born in Uttoxeter registration district his mother's maiden name was Giles and on 8th June 1843 he was buried at Uttoxeter aged 5 months and 4 days.
Between 1844 and 1850 Edward Codd Superintendent of Police is mentioned several times in Staffordshire Advertiser in the news for Longton

1847 2nd January Stafford Advertiser "A caution to sliders on footpaths" William Jones, a young man was summoned under the provision of the Police Act for sliding on the footpaths at Longton the previous Friday. Inspector Codd stated that in consequence of the practice several accidents had occurred and various complaints made by inhabitants. During the last frost the footpaths were rendered almost impassable by the foolish and dangerous practice of which the defendant and several others had been guilty. He was fined 2s 6d with 6s 6d costs.

1847 24th April Staffordshire Advertiser- Wages – John Hargreaves, a stone mason employed on the North Staffordshire railway at Longton, summoned Benjamin Jaquis, a subcontractor for 13 days wages, amounting to £3 11s 6d. The defendant, who did not appear, had, it appeared left the neighbourhood leaving the claims of a number of other workmen unsatisfied. Inspector Codd proved he served the summons upon the defendant in Chippenham, in Wiltshire. The Magistrates made an order for payment, with costs, which in this case, in consequence of the distance travelled by the Inspector, amounted to £4 16s

1848 29th April Staffordshire Advertiser – Prize Fight- Information having been given at the Police Office, Longton, on Monday night, that a fight was fixed to take place on the following morning at Moddershall, a distance of six miles, between a son of Brandrick, the well-known pugilist and Mellor of Fenton for £5 a side. Inspector Codd accompanied by four men arrived at the spot about five o'clock and found nearly five hundred persons assembled. the presence of the police dispersed the ragamuffins, who proceeded to Spot Gate, but here also they were followed by the police and again dispersed. The seconds and supporters with their men drove

in vehicles in the direction of Longton, but when they got to the Mear they turned to Blythe Bridge and the fight took place behind the church now building. The police being on foot were unable to keep up with them after they left Spot Gate. Brandrick came off victorious, he is but 16 years of age

1849 29th December Staffordshire Advertiser- Longton - Testimonial to Mr Codd. A number of the respectable inhabitants of Longton having decided upon presenting to Mr Codd, the inspector of the constabulary force in that town a testimonial, as a mark of approbation of the conduct of that officer during his five years' residence in the district, a subscription was accordingly entered into for that purpose, and on Monday evening, Mr Codd was invited to a public dinner at the Eagle Inn Longton, to which about 40 persons sat down. The dinner was of first-rate quality, was highly commended, and reflected the greatest credit on Mr and Mrs Malkin. Mr Weberley, manufacturer, Longton, occupied the chair; Mr Cope of Fenton, filing the vice chair, and after the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and other toasts were given and responded to. In the course of the evening the chairman rose, and after alluding to the efficient services of Mr Codd, and the satisfactory manner in which all classes in the town (excepting, perhaps those whose practices had brought upon them too frequently the penalties of the law) regarded the discharge of his public duties, in the name of the subscribers presented to that officer a very handsome gold watch and chain. Mr Codd returned thanks in some suitable observations and the evening was spent in the greatest cordiality.

1851 Edward Codd is no 2 on the Surrey Constabulary Defaulters (Enrolment) Register which is held at Surrey Archives. He is described as age 36 years, height 6ft, birthplace Staffs, **(sic)** joined on 9th January 1851 with previous occupations as surgeon and police. He served for 2 years and 9 months Resigning on 31ST October 1853 to take up a new post in Plymouth.

Surrey Constabulary Defaulter's (enrolment) Register

Name and former police force	Rank	No	Age	Height	Place of birth	Date joined	Previous Occupation	Resign	Dismissed	Length of service
Edward Codd Indian Police, City of London, Notts, Inspector Staffs	Superintendent born British Guiana	2	36	6'	Staffs	9 January 1851	Police also surgeon father a major general	31 Oct 1853	Promotion to Superintendent Plymouth	2 years 9 months

1851 South Eastern Gazette 21st January: Appointment of Edward Codd late of Staffordshire Police to Surrey Constabulary. He was one of the men appointed Superintendent at a salary of £85

1851 Census No 1 Tunsgate, Guildford, Surrey lists Edward Codd aged 36 years Superintendent of Police born West Indies, a British Subject, Ellen his wife aged 31 years born Plymouth, Devon and Frederick, son aged 11 years born Chelsea.

1851 13th May Sussex Advertiser - Superintendent Codd is at Guildford Borough Police Court regarding two cases of Drunk and disorderly.

By December 1851 Superintendent Codd had moved to Reigate as he attended the incident below which was printed in several newspapers throughout the country.

1852 13th February Evening Mail – At Surrey Quarter Sessions on 11th February, Superintendent Codd was a witness in the case of William Hayes, John Jones, George Crocket, Charles Mallet and James Welsh regarding a Prize Fight which had taken place on Burstow Common on the confines of the counties of Surrey and Sussex. The defendants were all found guilty fined £5 each and had to severally enter into their own recognizance of £200 to keep the peace for 2 years

Part of the newspaper report includes details of the number of police in the Reigate district.

Edward Codd, Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary for Reigate district, stated that on 2nd December he received information of an intended prize fight and went with Inspector Benham and a constable to Burstow Common which is about five miles from Reigate. He arrived at 2 o'clock. The Brighton Railway had a station at Horley about two miles from the spot (it had previously been stated that these affairs had been much facilitated since the introduction of the railways). There was a crowd of about 300 persons and the men were fighting in a circular ring formed by ropes. Hayes and Jones were nearest to him. Crockett was acting as second to Jones and Mallett appeared to be the umpire. He got into the ring and asked them to desist in the Queen's name. They continued fighting and Mallett stated if a magistrate was present, he would have desisted. He considered Mallett wanted to interfere with him in his duty, as he had a menacing attitude, he assured Mallett he did have authority and repeatedly told them to desist but they did not. The bystanders then rushed into the ring flourishing sticks and then fists so he thought it prudent as there were only three of them to retreat.

When cross examined Superintendent Codd said he went to the outer ring and looked on, he did not send for anybody, the fight terminating a little after 5 o'clock. The common, he believed, was about three quarters or a mile from the Sussex border and partly enclosed. There was a beer house about a quarter of a mile off and some labourer's cottages about a hundred yards off, Reigate was about five miles off and the railway station about two. He did not hear anyone say they were not in Surrey but Sussex He said there were only nine men and an Inspector in the Reigate District and he was the only mounted one. His nine men were located in different places some ten miles from Burstow Common. At Reigate he had one man and an Inspector as this was the head station. He was himself stationed at Redhill. His district extended for nine or ten miles and the next man might be a mile and a half off. Inspector Benham of Reigate district stated he had accompanied Mr Codd to the common and the part where the fight was in Surrey.

1853 10th May Sussex Advertiser - Reigate - Two men were advertised in the Police Gazette of the names of George Christie and John Smart, for having stolen a mare and brown pony from Swindon Wiltshire on 16th April last. Christie was apprehended soon after and a reward was being offered for Smart, our active Superintendent, Mr Codd succeeded in apprehending him on Sunday last, the 8th at the Bats and Balls Public House, Reigate, whilst he was at dinner

with his female companion, a woman travelling the country with him. Smart's dress was very much attired from the description given. On his being questioned by Mr Codd about his name, he denied it being Smart and said it was Smith. Mr Codd told him he should take him into custody on suspicion of the above and he admitted his name to be John Smart. He will be taken to Swindon to undergo examination.

1853 17th September Westmorland Gazette appointment of Superintendent of Police for Preston. The Watch Committee cut the list of final candidates to three, one of which was Mr E Codd of Reigate.

1853 15th October Exeter and Plymouth Gazette Edward Codd Superintendent of Surrey County Constabulary at Reigate has been elected by the Watch Committee to the office of Superintendent of Police at Plymouth.

1854 26th April Western Courier Superintendent Codd and his men attended a fire at the timber yard of Mr Stitson in Sussex Street, Plymouth.
1854 September Frances Hallam Codd made her will leaving the residue of her estate to Edward Codd late of Sloane Street Chelsea and now residing near Reigate, Surrey. **(2)**

1854 15th September Royal Cornwall Gazette- Plymouth - Extraordinary Case - On Monday, the Syren, a fine yacht of 67 tons put into the port of Plymouth and a couple of sailors landed and went to a public house in Castle Street, the landlord of which they particularly pressed to inform the police that there were on board the yacht two young ladies, who had been clandestinely brought from Cherbourg, and were kept there against their will. Mr Codd, the superintendent of police, on hearing these facts, manned his boat with a part of the force and went on board on Friday morning with Inspector Thomas. He there saw Mr Moore, and upon making known the object of his visit, was permitted to see the ladies. One of was a lady about twenty-four years of age and the other her sister was aged about seventeen or eighteen. Mr Codd told them what he had heard and asked the eldest lady whether she was kept there against her will. She said, "Not exactly that," and that Mr Moore was a man of honour. Mr Codd asked her whether she wished to leave the yacht. She hesitated, then declined, upon which he told her that his duty was at an end.

He was then about to leave, but after he got in his boat, the elder of the two ladies came and said they would like to leave also, and they were accordingly taken to the boat, brought ashore and lodged at the Royal Hotel, Mr Moore undertaking immediately to communicate with their friends, some of whom resided in Plymouth. It is said that Mr Moore obtained possession of them by taking the two young ladies along with their mother and a friend for a cruise, that he subsequently landed the mother and friend at Cherbourg and then set sail for a further trip, but instead of re-landing the young ladies, brought them on to Plymouth. Mr Moore, who is a resident of Weymouth and a member of the Royal Irish Yacht Club appeared to be very much attached to the eldest of the ladies. They are daughters of an English General Officer and it was the intention of the party to have gone up the Straits of Gibraltar, but to do so it was necessary to get the seamen to sign articles, which the men refused to do, saying that they would not sail

while there were two young ladies on board, who were clandestinely withdrawn from their friends. They had left Cherbourg on Sunday week.

This case was reported in newspapers throughout the country.

1855 27th January Edward and Helen had a daughter Emily Linzee who was baptized at Plymouth St Andrew on 11th April 1855

1856 Hangings at Bodmin Goal. William Nevin was convicted of the murder of Major Benjamin Robinson on 1st June 1856. Nevin was a corporal under Robinson on a prison ship Runneymede anchored in Plymouth Sound. When Robinson ordered him to locate a missing prisoner, Nevin fired his musket at him, killing him on the spot. The killing was witnessed and Nevin was arrested at the time. At his trial on 28TH July 1856 at Cornwall Assizes he claimed it was an accident but the jury found him guilty in 10 minutes. He was hanged at Bodmin Jail atop the gate house on 11th August. The London Evening Standard of 4th June 1856 has full details of the coroner's enquiry and states Mr E Codd, Superintendent of Police went to the ship Runneymede on 1st June regarding the musket used, two were shown to him one sound, one broken, one unloaded but had recently been discharged, the percussion cap being recently exploded and the other having blood on it.

1856 20th and 27th September Exeter and Plymouth Gazette – A £50 reward was offered by the distressed parents of a man missing from Stonehouse Plymouth since 27th July. All information to Mr E Codd Superintendent of Police at Plymouth. 11TH October the same newspaper under the heading "Young man missing." Stated the reward of £50 lately offered with a reference to Mr E Codd Superintendent of Police Plymouth has been withdrawn and £10 only is now being offered for the information desired.

1858 17th September Sheffield Daily Telegraph Edward Codd who had been Chief of Plymouth Police for 5 years was one of 43 persons to apply to become Chief Constable of Sheffield. He did not make the last six who were called for interview.

The Plymouth and West Devon Electoral Register for 1859 and the Rate Register for 1860 both list Edward Codd at 19 Portland Square Plymouth

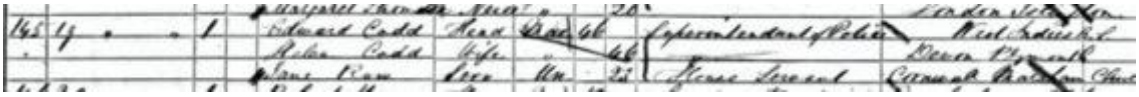
1861 22nd February Jersey Independent and Daily Telegraph - Rather more than two years ago the Island was invaded by an enterprising corps of romantic gipsies. They (like accomplished oyster-eaters) "took in the natives" to a considerable extent. They "read the stars" to such good purpose that from feminine innocent alone, they obtained, if we remember correctly £20 and with other prize money decamped taking passage for Plymouth. Unluckily for them, the Telegraph was (for a wonder) not out of order and the Plymouth Police had due warning both of the gypsies' coming and the following gentleman in blue close upon their heels.

The star-readers were brought back to the Island. On being brought to trial Mr Edward Codd, Inspector of the Plymouth Police attended and gave evidence. Naturally the Inspector looked for his expenses and Mr PJ Simon advanced the sum of £7 to meet Mr Codd's demand, on the formal promise (so we are told) of Mr Constable Aubin that he should be reimbursed immediately, the promise being given in the presence of the Bailiff. When Mr Simon subsequently applied for his money, he found that repudiation was the order of the day. Philip sent him to John and John sent him to Philip until his patience was worn out and he put the functionaries named into the Small Debts Court. Of course, one or the whole will be condemned and it is hoped they will be able to pay, at least at the rate of 10s per month so that Mr Simon may obtain his money in not much more than a year as it would be a distressing calamity for the Authorities to be (sold up) before the Sheriff to realize the sum of £7.

1861 20th March Western Morning News – Strange discovery of a quantity of bad money at Millbay - Yesterday morning a very strange discovery of bad money took place at the Millbay lime kiln. While some youths were amusing themselves by playing about the spot, they saw a respectably dressed man cautiously approach the lime kiln and after taking 'observations' as to whether anyone was watching his proceedings and having apparently satisfied himself that such was not the case, stooped down and deposited something in the lime, after which he walked hastily away. But the cunning of the adult was not equal to the perception of the juveniles, and with the enterprise peculiar to their knowing class, they immediately went to the lime to find out what had been put there. Upon searching they found a tin box containing £3 7s in silver money and at a short distance another parcel with some more. They gave the information of the circumstances to the police, and the box with its spurious contents is now in the hands of Mr Superintendent Codd, of the Plymouth police, whose well known detective abilities will doubtless soon trace out something as to the intentions of the gentleman who thought proper to deposit the 'coins' in the lime.

During 1861 Superintendent Codd and his men attended several fires in Plymouth including a fire at the premises of Mr Madge, upholsterer and cabinet maker in George street (Western Morning News 20th September) and a rick of wheat in Jubilee Street (Western Morning News 21st August)

1861 Census 19 Portland Square Plymouth Devon lists Edward Codd aged 46years Superintendent of Police born West indies, British Subject, and Helen his wife aged 46 years born Plymouth also with them was a servant. Emily, their daughter is listed as a visitor at the home of Sarah Rawle 39 Park Street Plymouth.



1861 10th September Western Morning News: Superintendent Codd's attention was drawn by the Bench sitting at Plymouth Guildhall to omnibus drivers who stopped in the middle of the road causing other road users to go around them sometimes using the pavement and also

stopping to change horses in the street. Superintendent said he would pay attention to the matter.

1862 August Western Daily Mercury

SKARDON AND SONS
Will SELL BY AUCTION, on THURSDAY next, the 14th August, 1862, at No. 19, Portland Square, Plymouth, the whole of the Handsome and Modern

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE;

Chimney Glasses, in Burnished Gold Frames; Cases of Stuffed Birds, in fine preservation; Piano, in Rosewood Case; Alabaster Ewers; Superior Brussels Carpets; Cut Glass and Ormulu Gasliers; Handsome Hall Lamp; Oil Paintings; Superior Feather Beds, &c.

The Property of Mr. E. Codd, leaving the Neighbourhood.

May be viewed the Morning of Sale, which will Commence at Eleven o'Clock.

Globe Fire and Life Insurance Offices, 11, Bedford-St., Plymouth, August 7th, 1862. 923D

The retirement of Mr Codd – The following report of the Watch Committee was brought up and read; Committee Room Guildhall August 21st, 1862: The Watch Committee desire to bring to the notice of the Council the position of Mr Codd, the late Superintendent of the Borough Police, who has been compelled to resign from the service through the state of his health, before attaining a period which would entitle him to any benefit from the superannuation fund, to which he has been a contributor. The Committee have recorded their approval of nine years faithful service on the part of Mr Codd and have passed a resolution continuing his pay from the date of his attack to 29th September, when his successor will enter his duties. The Committee think, however that Mr Codd's service give him a claim to some further consideration and they have therefore agreed, subject to the approval of the Council to award as a further gratuity that he be permitted to draw his salary and allowances for an additional quarter of a year, terminating on 25th December next.

Mr Le Corney asked whether Mr Codd resigned of his own accord or was requested to do so. The Clerk said it was a voluntary act. Mr Le Corney suggested that the amount intended to be given to Mr Codd was not sufficient. In the Civil Service it was the custom to give one month's pay for each year's service, which would entitle Mr Codd to receive nine month's pay.

Mr Skardon moved, and Mr Channens seconded that the report be received and adopted.

1862 22nd August Western Daily Mercury - Proposed Testimonial to E S Codd Esq. In Consequence of severe illness, E S Codd Esq, has been compelled to resign his post as Superintendent of Police for this borough, in which capacity he has served for the last nine or

ten years. Great sorrow is experienced by members of the force, and the inhabitants of Plymouth generally.at the resignation of one who, by his great urbanity and kindness has won the affection and esteem of all who knew him. The members of the force of which he was superintendent have determined to present him with some more substantial proof of their esteem for him and have purchased a handsome silver cruet stand (six bottles) from the stock of Mr Elliott, silversmith, George Street Plymouth. The testimonial bears the following inscription – "Presented to E S Codd, Esq, by the officers and men of the Plymouth Police Force, on his resignation, August 20th, 1862". It is supposed that the testimonial will be presented to Mr Codd today, at his residence, in consequence of his inability from his present ill state to attend any public meeting for that purpose. Mr Codd, we understand is now suffering from severe indispositions so much as to excite the alarm of his medical attendants for his recovery

1862 31st October Royal Cornwall Gazette, Death - At Falmouth on 22nd October of congestion of the brain brought on by mental anxiety – Edward Codd Esq. late Superintendent of Plymouth and son of Major General Edward Codd Governor and Commander in Chief of Barbados in his 84th **(sic)** year.

He was buried at Ford Park Cemetery Plymouth on 27th October, his address being 17 Middle Terrace Falmouth and his age given as 48 years.

15Tth November 1862 his will was proven, Edward Codd late of Falmouth Cornwall who died

22nd October 1862 at Falmouth will was proven at Principal Registry Office by the order of Helen Linzee Giles of Falmouth, spinster and one of the executors, Value under £1500. Helen Linzee Giles was born 3rd August 1810 and baptized 12th August 1810 at Stoke Damerel Plymouth, her parents were Samuel and Rebecca Linzee Giles. On 2nd April 1817 three of Helens siblings were baptized at Stoke Damerel, Rebecca Linzee Giles born November 1812, Samuel Hood Linzee Giles born 3rd June 1814 and Charles Shea Giles. Their parents were Samuel, a purser in the navy and Rebecca Linzee Giles. These baptisms confirm that Helen Linzee Giles changed her year of birth for the census.

No marriage can be found for Helen Linzee Giles and Edward Codd. When Edward died in 1862 probate was given to Helen Linzee Giles, spinster yet when she died in 1880, she was Helen Linzee Codd spinster. She had also taken several years off her age until after Edward died then she gave the correct year of birth. It would therefore seem that they never married.
1871 census Helen Codd is visiting her sister and brother-in-law who is a Clerk in Holy Orders in Renfrew Scotland her birth year given about 1809 in Plymouth. In 1871 Emily Codd is a pupil at Bolham School Tiverton Devon.

1872 April 3rd Emily Linzee Codd of 179 Finborough Road, West Brompton married Henry Robert Wallach at St Pauls Church Kensington, her father being given as Edward Codd MD. Sadly Emily died in 1873 and was buried at Brompton cemetery, a grant for burial being given to Helen Codd, mother, widow of 179 Finborough Road.

1880 8th January Helen Linzee Codd is buried at Brompton cemetery, her birth year given as 1811.In the same grave is her daughter Emily Linzee Wallach and her son Frederick Augustus Codd who was buried 19th August 1881.

The probate of Helen Linzee Codd states she was a spinster and it was proven by her brothers Samuel Hood Linzee Giles and Charles Shea Giles.

Superintendent Timothy Casey
Dublin Metropolitan Police and Staffordshire Constabulary
Surrey Constabulary Enrolment Number 3
9 January 1851

Formerly served Dublin Metropolitan Police Staffordshire Constabulary

1845 March 31 Aris's Birmingham Gazette: Inspector Codd of Staffordshire applied for head of the detective force. Interestingly amongst a number of applicants there is a James Murray from Surrey.

1851 January 21 South Eastern Gazette: Appointment of Edward Codd late of Staffordshire Police to Surrey Constabulary. He was one of the men appointed Superintendent at a salary of £85

1851 Appointed superintendent Surrey Constabulary 9 January 1851 age 36, 5 feet 10 inches. Sworn 25 January 1851.

1851 Census: Timothy Casey - aged 37 - living as a Lodger at High Street, Godalming, Surrey with wife Ann and daughter of 3 months Terrissa. Occupation Police Officer. Possibly born circa 1814 in County Kerry, Ireland

9 May 1851 GO serving Godalming.

22 July 1851 GO54 £5 pay rise: Chief Constable express entire satisfaction with the manner Casey and Hughes have discharged their duties and promoted to higher rate of pay £90 pa.

1852 December 18: Compelled to resign reason unknown. He may then have moved to the USA.

(From Jenny Tuffs February 2021: 1851 census there is another visitor at the address an Austin Casey and looking into him I found he was the son of no 3 on the list, Timothy Casey. I looked at trees on ancestry and it seems they moved to America although I haven't verified this.)

Superintendent Alfred Benjamin Hughes
1816-1888
Metropolitan Police and Alnwick
Surrey Constabulary Appointment Number 4
9 Jan 1851- 16 November 1851
City of Bath chief officer

Metropolitan Police D Division Alnwick, Northumberland **1837-1851**

Appointed **9 January 1851** sworn 25 Jan. age 35, 5 feet 8 inches. Superintendent at £85 pa.

GO54 22 July 1851 Chief Constable express entire satisfaction with the manner Casey and Hughes have discharged their duties and promoted to higher rate of pay £90 pa.

GO 67 17 November 1851 Moved from Farnham to Bath Resigned 16 Nov 1851 to become chief of police Bath

Jennifer Tuffs late Surrey Constabulary

Alfred Hughes was one of the first superintendents of the Surrey Constabulary. He did not serve for long as he was appointed chief of police for Bath.

On formation of the Surrey Constabulary in 1851

Recruits sought from

1. Men who had already served in a county police force
2. Men from HM Forces
3. The parish and borough constables

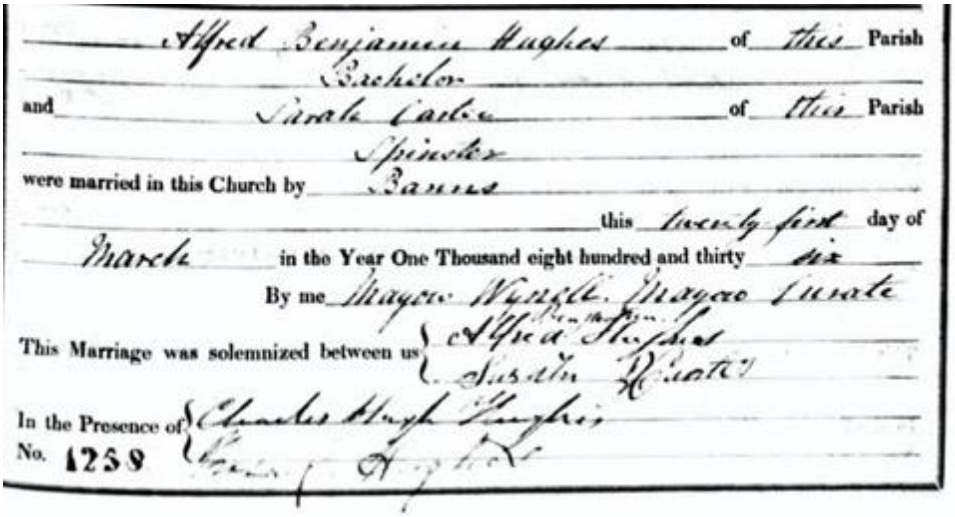
Honest sober under 30 least 5-foot 7 inch; no minimum age one appointed aged 14 and another 15. (Probably because it was difficult to get clerks – early cadets!)
In the list of appointments to the Surrey Constabulary Hughes was number 4:

> Alfred Benjamin Hughes 9 Jan 1851 sworn in 25 January 1851; age 35, 5 feet 8ins tall, Metropolitan Police, "D" Division, and Alnwick Police Association 1837-1851, Northumberland appointed on £85 resigned 16 Nov 1851 to become chief of Police Bath

Alfred Benjamin Hughes was born 26th September 1817 and baptized along with four of his siblings, Charles Hugh born 1805, Rosa Catherine born 1813, Edmund Stephen born 1815 and Clara Anne born 1820 on 5th November 1825 at St George Bloomsbury. They lived at

Brownlow Street St Giles in the Field and their parents were Charles Waring Hughes a coach ironmonger and Ann.

1836 21 March, Alfred married Sarah Carter at St George Bloomsbury.



Alfred Benjamin Hughes of this Parish
Bachelor
and Sarah Carter of this Parish
Spinster
were married in this Church by Banns
this twenty first day of
March in the Year One Thousand eight hundred and thirty six
By me Thomas Wynne Thomas Curate
This Marriage was solemnized between us Alfred Hughes
Sarah Carter
In the Presence of Charles Hugh Hughes
No. 1259

1837 Helen Eliza Hughes was born.

1841 Census for Princess Street Marylebone lists Alfred Hughes aged 24years, a policeman living with Sarah Hughes aged 27years, Charles Hughes aged 1 year and Rosa Hughes aged 3years.

h of Marylebone
ship of St Marylebone

HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where
Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited		Males	Females		Whether Born in same County
		Sophia Ward		25	Servant	Y
	1	Edward Adkins	25		Carpenter J	Y
		Martha do		24		Y
		Emma do		2		Y
		Edward do	1 Month			Y
		Margaret Pollard		56	Annt	N
		Jane Reeve		65		Y
		Elizabeth Reed		24	Brushmaker	Y
		Emma Rose		12		Y
		George do		8		Y
		Alfred Hughes	24		Policeman	Y

1841 Census Hammersmith Ellen (sic)Hughes aged 5years was living with Richard and Eliza Sibley (Richard is her uncle having married Eliza Hughes)

1842 1st June Charles Waring Hughes of Princess Street Marylebone born about 1840 was buried at St Mary's Paddington Green aged 2years.

1843 15th November at Christ Church Marylebone Rosa Catherine Hughes born 22nd June

1843 and Alice Sarah Hughes born 23rd June 1843 were baptized. Their parents were Alfred Benjamin and Sarah Hughes of 27 Earl Street. Alfred was a Police Constable.

1845 April /June quarter Kensington registration district Emily Clara Hughes was born.

1848 January/ March quarter Kensington registration district Frances Mary Hughes was born.

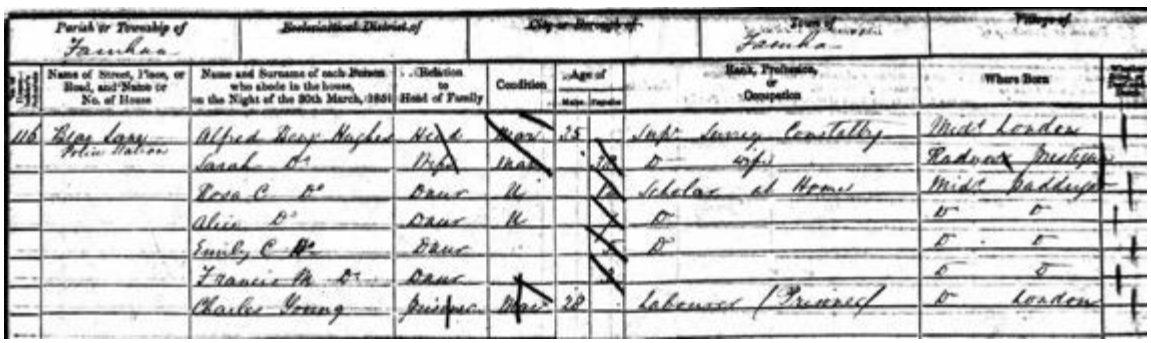
Sometime before 1850, Alfred moved to Northumberland as the Durham County Advertiser 25 October 1850 reported Alfred Hughes a Police Constable at Alnwick apprehended a poacher who had escaped capture the previous December when two of his accomplices had been tried and subsequently transported.

1851 Alfred Benjamin Hughes is number 4 on The Surrey Constabulary Defaulters (Enrolment) Register which is held at Surrey County Archives. He is described as age 35year and 5ft 8in. He left after 10 months on promotion to Chief of Police at Bath.

Name and former police force	Rank	No	Age	Height	Place of birth	Date joined	Previous Occupation	Resign	Dismissed	Length of service
Alfred Benjamin Hughes Metropolitan Police, Alnwick	Superintendent	4	35	5'8"	Northum berland	9 January 1851	Police	16 Nov 1851	Promoted Chief of Bath City	10 months

1851 South Eastern Gazette Alfred Hughes of Northumberland appointed Superintendent at Surrey Constabulary on a salary of £85.

In 1851 Census Alfred Hughes and family are living at Police Station, Bear Lane, Farnham with a prisoner in the cells Charles Young a 28-year-old labourer.



1851 Census Helen and Rosa are living in St Botolph Cambridge with Eliza Sibley who is now widowed.

Application for Bath City Police

1851 Bath Chronicle 6th November- Bath Police – No less than 15 men have applied for the post of Chief of Police at Bath and after their testimonials were examined by the Watch Committee it was reduced to five. On 12th November the Watch Committee selected Mr Hughes Superintendent of the New Surrey Constabulary, previously of the Metropolitan Police as their new Chief of Police.

1851 December, Murder at Piston near Bath. A quiet and inoffensive man named George Bush was murdered at Piston and several persons were arrested on suspicion of the murder but released, the police were completely baffled by the case, when unexpectedly a clue to the murderer was obtained by his own confession. In July 1852 an Irish pedlar known as John alias Christopher Smith alias Hasley was in Dorchester Gaol under the Vagrancy Act when he confessed to a murder in Somerset to a fellow inmate. Further enquiries led to Mr Hughes, Chief of Police at Bath arresting Smith for the murder. When arrested Smith said he should make a clean confession and gave Mr Hughes full details of the incident finishing by saying he was sorry as it was a cold-blooded deed and he was perfectly prepared to die for it. At his trial in August 1852 after evidence from two surgeons the jury said they considered Smith insane, and he was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure.

1852 Devises and Wiltshire Gazette 19th February: A hoax. On Saturday evening, intelligence was received at Bath Police by Mr Hughes, the chief officer, that the Prince of Wales had died suddenly. The news was said to have been received at Swindon by telegraph and had then come by train. Mr Hughes immediately informed the Mayor and other authorities with the news rapidly spreading throughout the community. The statement was carried on to Bristol where it caused much excitement and early the next morning a crowd surrounded the Post Office eager for news and it became necessary to post a bulletin contradicting the rumours. It appeared the clerk of the telegraph at Paddington had signalled Swindon and asked if he had heard the rumour of the Prince of Wales death. Someone at Swindon overheard this and repeated to people on the arrival of a train, amongst these people was Sir John Hare who questioned the guard but was informed it was a rumour and no reliance could be placed on it. However, Sir John and a lady with him declared it must be true as it had been telegraphed, adding that the Prince was a weakly child who was likely to die suddenly. The report was soon contradicted from Paddington but the train had gone and as the telegraph had not reached Bath or Bristol the report spread before the contradiction could overtake it.

1853 Morning Chronicle 26th July. Recent reports of the Select Committee of the House of Commons seriously threatened the role of Parish Constable. The committee had reports from several people including Mr Hughes, the chief of Bath Police and formerly a superintending constable in Northumberland who stated he found them so corrupt that he was obliged to have nothing to do with them and act entirely on his own. He had found some were convicted of felony and others were drinking in the company with most notorious thieves and poachers. They also had relatives who did likewise and were also licensed dealers in game. Even when the officer was honest, active and skilful other obstacles to his efficiency interposes. The committee believed that expense was the only serious obstacle to the establishment of an

effective police force throughout the kingdom and they affirmed the necessity of a legislative measure for the adoption of an efficient police force throughout Great Britain.

1855 17th May Bath Chronicle -Bath and Somerset County Races – the newspaper stated that order of the course was admirably maintained by Mr Hughes and a body of Bath Police, some of whom were mounted.

1855 Berkshire Chronicle 27thst October and several other Berkshire newspapers. A letter addressed to Her Majesty's Justice of the Peace for the County of Berks from Alfred Hughes. My Lords and gentlemen: I beg most respectfully to inform you that it is my intention to offer myself to your notice as a candidate for the appointment of Chief Constable of the County of Berks; and to state, I have been constantly engaged in the police service for the last eighteen years, during which period, I have acquired a thorough knowledge of criminal law, and the practical working and management of a Constabulary Force.

Also I have received the most gratifying recognition of my service from the authorities of this city, for the manner I have performed the duties of Chief of Police from November 1851, to the present time; and shall have the honour to submit for your consideration numerous testimonials of my qualifications, showing that I have considerably increased the efficiency of the force now under my command, consisting of 82 officers and men, combined with reduced annual expenditure and against crime committed in this city.

I have only to add that I am 38 years of age, of good constitution; and should I be honoured by your confidence and support, I shall feel proud to devote my energies to the proper fulfilment of the duties of the office. I have the honour to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen
Your most humble and obedient servant
Alfred Hughes
Chief of the Bath Police

Central Police Office, Bath
24th October 1855

1856 Bath Chronicle 20th March – Bath Town Council – Increasein salary for Chief of Police. A letter was read from Mr Alfred Hughes Chief of Police addressed to the Watch Committee soliciting an increase in salary and promising that if his request was acceded to he would make no further efforts for improvement of his position. A report from the Watch Committee was also read which contained a resolution of recommending that Mr Hughes salary be increased by £50 per annum taking it to £250 per year.

1856 May 3: Exeter and Plymouth Gazette Mr Hughes, Chief of Bath Police, is to have the management and sole discretion of the Police at the ensuing show of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society at Yeovil

1856 October/December quarter Bath registration district Amy Sempill Hughes is born.

1857 September 10: 'The Leigh Woods murder' was committed. The victim was a young woman named Charlotte Pugsley and the murderer was a butler named John William Beale. Beale, although was a married man, took the deceased from her employment with all her property, under the pretence they were going to be married. They were seen together near the woods and after the murder it was found Beale had taken her boxes of belongings from the railway and they were later found in his possession. Mr Hughes and Inspector Norris of Bath Police were fortunate in discovering and arresting Beale in Daventry Northamptonshire. He was tried and found guilty at Taunton Assise in December 1867 and executed there the following January. A full description of the case can be found in The Taunton Courier of Wednesday October 7th, 1857 and also in the book published by Alfred Hughes in 1864.

1858 4th February Bath Chronicle Obligations were expressed to Mr Hughes, chief of police for the manner in which he had got up a case before the magistrates. He had supplied every link in the chain that was necessary to convict the prisoner. It was entirely due to Mr Hughes vigilance, assiduity, and care that the detection and prosecution of the prisoner had been accomplished. The Mayor said, the magistrates were always glad to receive any testimony to the efficiency of their officers and he hoped Mr Hughes and the force under him would continue to deserve the character which had been given to them.

1858 April 15: Devises and Wiltshire Gazette - **Burglary in Old Bond Street Bath**- A case that proves the perils in which the police undergo at the hands of desperadoes came before the magistrates. One of the individuals assaulted was Mr Hughes, chief of Bath Police, who appears to have been indefatigable in his exertions to apprehend the burglars. On 20TH January a burglary was committed at the premises of Mr Edwin Fisher, Old Bond Street Bath, and a large amount of property was stolen. Mr Hughes along with a detective from M Division Metropolitan Police went to the Blue Anchor public house Bethnal Green where the accused William Richardson was landlord. Mr Hughes spoke to Richardson and told him he was from Bath police and had information that he had purchased some diamond rings recently stolen from Bath. Mr Hughes noticed that he had a diamond ring on one of his fingers, he also mentioned a fight that had taken place on the premises five or six weeks previously.

This made Richardson rush from the room Mr Hughes being unable to stop him and the door was held tight shut for a few minutes then Richardson was seen darting up the stairs and entering a room, Mr Hughes followed and wedged his foot in the door. Richardson called a woman to bring him tongs and a sword which she did and then the door opened and he made a heavy blow at Mr Hughes with the tongs, swearing to have the policemen's lives. Mr Hughes stepped back to avoid the blow, which fell upon Detective Hewlett, missed his footing and fell down the stairs, cutting both his hands with the glass of a window. Richardson followed aiming repeatedly at him until Detective Hewlett dragged him from the house and called for assistance. Shortly after the door opened and the police re-entered and it was noticed that Richardson no longer was wearing the diamond ring or an albert chain on his waistcoat. He was taken to the police station where he again threatened Mr Hughes. The prisoner denied the charges and bail was refused.

1859 August 3: Bath Chronicle – Extraordinary Charge, **Anonymous letters**. Col. John Alexander Forbes had been apprehended under a warrant accused of on 23rd June 'unlawfully and wickedly utter and publish an obscene and indecent letter, with intent to debauch and corrupt Adelaide Lucy Fenton, and with intent to incite her to commit a breach of the peace 'and was brought before the Mayor at the Guildhall. Miss Fenton had been subjected from time to time, over a long period to the receipt of letters of an indecent and disgusting nature. The letter to which the charge referred was handed to the Chief of Police who had also been given the earlier letters. The writer of the letters was a complete stranger to Miss Fenton who was well known in fashionable circles, and much esteemed in Bath.

For a considerable time, there was no clue to the author of these letters, then a gentleman called Llewllyn Watling from London sent the Chief of Police at Bath some letters he had received with a disgusting tone, the letters coming from Bath. The previous December Mr Watling had advertised in 'The Times' for a situation as professor of languages and teacher of writing. A person signing himself Francis York applied and asked for his mail to be sent to him at the Post Office Bath, as the correspondence continued, the letters on the part of Francis York disclosed a spirit of vindictiveness and feelings of an indecent character. The correspondence was then broken off. In July Mr Watling found it necessary to advertise again in 'The Times' and received more letters from Francis York with a disgusting tone, these he sent to the Chief of Police at Bath who at once noticed the similarity in handwriting with the letters to Miss Fenton. In order for Mr Hughes to prove these letters were written by the same person, he wrote a letter to Mr Forbes, Inspector Bond took it to Forbes who wrote a reply which he gave to Inspector Bond. Both Mr Watling and Mr Hughes believed it to be the same handwriting as their letters, there were similar mis - spellings of the same words and a similarity in the formation of the sentences. After much deliberation Forbes was committed to the next Assize and granted bail with sureties of £800.

The Bath Chronicle for 18th August 1859 advertised a £50 reward for any information leading to the apprehension of John Alexander Forbes who had **failed to appear** at Wells assize on 10 August, the warrant being held by Alfred Hughes, Chief of Police at Bath.

1860 Sometime during the night of 29th June and 30t June, Francis 'Savillle' Kent, almost 4years old disappeared from his room in his father's house called Road Hill House in the village of Road in Wiltshire. His body was found in the vault of an outside privy. He was still dressed in his nightshirt and wrapped in a blanket, he had knife wounds on his chest and hands and his throat was slashed so deeply that the body was almost decapitated. The boy's nursemaid, Elizabeth Gough reported him missing at 7.15 to Mrs Kent and a search began but Mr Kent personally drove to Trowbridge to inform Superintendent Foley rather than relying on the local Police to pass a message. He also seemed to have more details of the crime than he later admitted. A controversial inquest took place, in which the coroner first restricted the witnesses to servants of the house, police officers and medical practitioners and it needed the jury to insist the family be questioned. The coroner went to the house but only questioned his 16year old half-sister Constance and brother William, Mr and Mrs Kent were never formally examined.

Elizabeth Gough, the nursemaid was arrested but discharged and Jonathan Whicher, an original member of the detective branch at Scotland Yard and the most celebrated detective of his day was brought in to help. He started his enquiries by concentrating on a missing nightdress belonging to Constance, and he established Constance had an opportunity to remove items of nightwear from the laundry basket and blame it on the local woman who did the household laundry. He passed his suspicions along with other circumstantial evidence to the magistrates who directed the arrest Constance and gave Whicher seven days to prepare a case against her. Mr Kent provided a barrister for his daughter and he dominated proceedings. Constance was released without trial owing to public opinion against the accusations of a working-class detective against a lady of breeding. The case was later dropped and Whicher's reputation never recovered. (This murder is the subject of a book by Kate Summerscale – 'The Suspicions of Mr Whicher or The Murder at Road Hill House')

In December 1860 it was reported that this deeply mysterious murder was being revived in consequence of the diligent and searching inquires being made by Mr Hughes, the chief and Mr Norris of Bath Police (These men had earlier been responsible for the arrest of Beale - The Leigh Woods murder). They have gathered additional evidence which to an extent was fragmentary but is hoped to clear up some matters. They made repeated visits to the neighbourhood and saw some thirty witnesses, some of whom had not been previously interrogated. The Huddersfield Chronicle of 15th December stated Inspector Norris and Superintendent Hughes were in a position to establish a case against a certain person and in a few weeks, they hoped their case would have matured so that they could apply for judicial assistance and apply to Wiltshire Magistrates (under whose sanction they are acting) for a warrant of arrest. Wiltshire Police have also been pursing enquiries and were believed to be in possession of a clue which may lead to important discoveries.

1861 Early July several newspapers reported that a London Detective visited Trowbridge and it was understood he was still diligently prosecuting the case. Mr Alfred Hughes, Chief of Police at Bath, visited Road but the precise object of his visit was not ascertained. Grave rumours were afloat respecting this mysterious murder, but at the time it was not prudent to give currency to them .In January 1861 newspapers reported that Mr Hughes of Bath police was said to have so far succeeded in unravelling the mystery in which the Road murder was enveloped and relying on upon his assurances of these discoveries, the public had been expecting to hear of another examination before the magistrates but it turned out the discoveries turned out to be a 'mares nest' and no fresh evidence was obtained to fix guilt on anyone so the whole affair was still shrouded in mystery.

In 1865 Constance confessed her guilt to a clergyman and at the Assizes pleaded guilty and was sentenced to death but commuted to life due to her age and confession. Mr Hughes and Inspector Norris had collected certain evidence in the case which had remained in Mr Hughes's possession, these documents were now applied for by Messrs Clark and Collins, Solicitors of Trowbridge who were conducting the prosecution where the facts will be of great service. Constance served 20years and was released in 1885 aged 41years and emigrated to Australia

in 1886 she died in 1944 aged 100 and it was always believed that Constance admitted the crime to shield another person either her brother or father but she never recanted her confession.

In 1861 Census Alfred Hughes is living at Woodland Cottage Walcot, Bath.

1861 Census for Blackburn lists both Helen Eliza and Rosa C Hughes living at the premises of Oliver Rylance, a draper.

1861 3 August Bristol Times: A **testimonial** has been presented to Mr Alfred Hughes the Chief of Police at Bath. It consisted of a purse containing 160 sovereigns and a handsome gold watch, of the value of £20.On the inside plate of the watch the following inscription was engraved "Presented with a purse of 160 sovereigns to Mr Alfred Hughes by the citizens of Bath in testimony of his zeal and uniform attention to his arduous duties as Chief of Police during a period of ten years- July 23rd, 1861"

1862 July 3 Bath Chronicle: The Chief of Police and the Board. A man named John Norris had applied for a license to drive a fly and was at court a week later in order that the police check of to his character could be made. Mr Hughes had neglected to fill in the customary paper and when questioned stated he had not filled it because the Board had previously licensed parties whom the police had reported as not good characters, although nothing was known against the present applicant. Mr Jolly, a board member said it was for the Police to give the information and the Board to act on it how they pleased. It was not for Mr Hughes to say whether a man should be licensed or not. Mr Hughes said he had not refused the information and had no objection to give it, but the point was that the Board licensed irrespective of the police report. He said if the Watch Committee ordered him to give a certificate, he would do so. It was then agreed that The Watch Committee instruct The Chief of Police to make enquiries and report to the Board on the characters of applicants for licenses.

1864 March 3 Bath Chronicle: Mr Alfred Hughes is about to **issue a book** in which he will relate his experience in most of the remarkable cases that have come under his notice during a period of 26years in the Metropolitan and Bath Police. The publication will be edited by the learned Recorder of Bath. The book "Leaves from the notebook of a Chief of Police" consists of nineteen chapters, each being a narrative of some case in which Mr Hughes was directly or indirectly concerned and will no doubt obtain a large circulation amongst the citizens of Bath.

1864 April 21 Bath Chronicle: James Smith appeared before Bath magistrates for the offence of **begging** in Prospect Place and was committed for fourteen days with hard labour. He had called at the house of Mr Hughes, Chief of Police and asked for some money, and upon Miss Hughes refusing threatened her with a stick and threatened to poison her dog, which frightened

her very much. Subsequently he left, and Mr Hughes on being informed went after the prisoner, and when he reached him, the prisoner asked for a few shillings in order that he might get a new wooden leg. Mr Hughes then took him into custody.

1866 August 23 Bath Chronicle: **The Conduct of The Chief of Police**. The Watch Committee heard that statements have been made that the conduct of Chief Superintendent Hughes has been of such nature as to bring scandal upon the office he holds, they had met twice to inquire the truth, but they have not had any evidence brought before them of any circumstances beyond the fact of his pecuniary embarrassments, of which there is no dispute. The committee felt there was not sufficient grounds to warrant his removal from office but felt it right to report the matter to the council.

Several allegations had been made but no proof brought forward- nothing beyond the fact Mr Hughes was in considerable pecuniary difficulties, and from which he was attempting, as every honest man would, to extricate himself. He had set aside some twelvemonths since a portion of his salary (£100 per year) for the payment of his debt but he believed that this £100 would pay about 1s 3d in the pound so it would take several years to get over his difficulties and if he was dismissed from the service the debts would never be paid.

The Watch Committee discussed the case further and decided there was no evidence of any baneful effects upon the police force consequent upon Mr Hughes's conduct. He had been 29years in the police service, for 15years he served in London without a mark against his name. He had filled the post of Chief of Police at Bath for 14years and seven or eight years previous had his salary increased from £200 to £250 a year but like others he had lived beyond his means. In March 1865 the Watch Committee decided that if he made an arrangement with his creditors, they would not discharge him. Mr Hughes had had yearly visits from the Government Inspector since he had been chief of police and they had been satisfactory, in fact the force was spoken of s almost a model force. Mr Hughes took care in selecting men for the force and maintained he did all they could expect from him. The watch committee agreed that if his private affairs impaired his efficiency or that of the force he would go before the council.

1865 February 18 Bristol Times: Mr Hughes, the Superintendent of Bath Police force, **fractured his leg** the previous Thursday by an accidental fall. On 1st June Bath Chronicle stated Mr Hughes, the Chief of Bath Police, has so far recovered from his late severe accident as to be able to attend the meeting of the Watch Committee and resume his official duties.

1867 December 4 Dublin Evening Post, Death - November 27th in this city Miss Helen E Hughes daughter of Alfred Hughes esq.

1867 December 12 Bath Chronicle Death: November 27th in Dublin Helen E Hughes daughter of Mr Alfred Hughes Chief of Police at Bath aged 31years.

During his time as Chief of Police at Bath Alfred Hughes conducted many cases before the local Justices which were recorded in the local newspapers.

1868 July 21 Bristol Times: Bath. **The Superintendent of Police apprehended for debt.** On Wednesday on conclusion of Police business Mr Hughes Superintendent of Bath Police was arrested at the suit of creditors and failing to satisfy the demand was conveyed to Taunton Gaol the same day. At the Watch Committee meeting on Friday, he was reported as "absent without leave "and a resolution was passed to suspend him from duty until the next committee meeting or on his release

The Bath Chronicle for 23rd July added a little more to this item --- In the meantime Insp Cook will take over the duties of the Superintendent. Some time ago Mr Hughes financial difficulties were discussed at a Council meeting, when the majority present agreed to no action in the matter in the hope that he would be able to make arrangements with his creditors but they were disappointed.

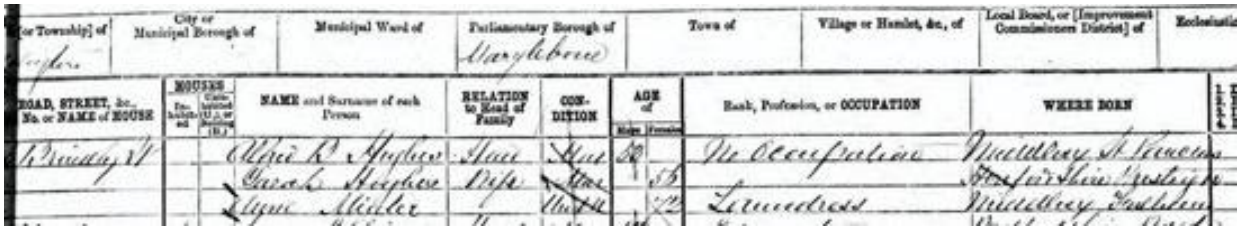
1868 August 7 Shepton Mallet Journal: Bath **Chief of Police dismissal**. The Watch Committee were engaged for some time investigating the affairs of Mr Hughes, the Chief of Police who is still in goal for debt. It was found several sums of money which had been received by Mr Hughes and which should have been paid to the Borough Fund had been appropriated by him, or at all events had not reached their proper destination. Under the circumstances Mr Hughes thought it prudent to tender his resignation and there was a disposition on the part of some members of the committee to accept it but the majority passed a resolution to dismiss him from public service.

1868 September 25t London Gazette: **List of Bankrupts** included - Hughes A B Chief of the City and Borough of Bath Police. Several stages of the Bankruptcy hearings for Mr Hughes were held during October and November.

1868 November 27 Shepton Mallet Journal: The case of A Hughes late Chief of Police of Bath came before Mr Commissioner Hill at Bristol Bankruptcy Court. No creditor appeared to oppose the application of the bankrupt to pass his last examination and receive an order of discharge but it appeared to His Honour from an examination of the accounts that some of the debts had been contracted without reasonable or probable expectation of payment and he therefore the censure of the court by suspending the discharge order for 3 months with protection.

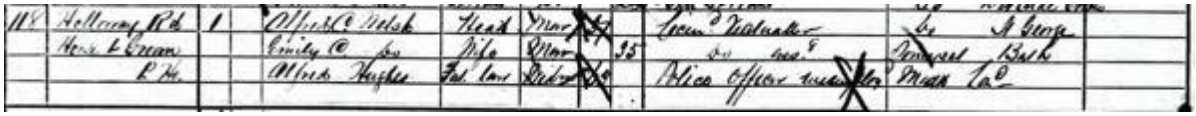
1869 May 13 London Evening Standard: Private Agency Office 16 Beaufort Buildings Strand. Mr Alfred Hughes late Chief of Police Bath undertakes divorce cases and other legal matters on the most reasonable terms,31years experience.

1871 Census 26 Brindley Street Paddington lists Alfred Hughes, no occupation and Sarah his wife.



1876 May 2: Emily Clara Hughes married Alfred Charles Welch at St Stephens Paddington and her father Alfred Benjamin Hughes is described as attendant at a museum.

It appears Sarah the wife of Alfred Hughes died sometime between 1871 and 1881 as the1881 census for Horse and Groom Holloway Road Islington lists Alfred and Emily Welch with her father, Alfred Hughes a widower, Police Officer, unemployed and Frances Hughes, her sister.



In January 1880 the licence of Horse and Groom, Holloway Road, Islington was transferred from Jarvis Henry Clifton to Alfred Charles Welch (Islington Gazette 12th January). Alfred Welch was still at Horse and Groom in August 1883 when along with his sister-in-law Rosa Hughes he was executor to the will of Eliza Sibley (aunt to Rosa and Emily). Alfred Welch died April/June Quarter 1885 Luton Registration district. After Alfred Welch died the licence of the Railway Hotel Houghton Regis was transferred to Emily Clara Welch (Luton Reporter 4th July 1885) In March 1888 Emily Welch left The Railway Hotel and the licence was transferred to Thomas Chadwick (Luton Reporter 234th March 1888)

Alfred Benjamin Hughes died October/December quarter 1888 in Uxbridge Registration district and was buried on 12th November at Ealing and Old Brentford Cemetery.

Superintendent Phillip Samuel Sargent
Bath and Essex Police
Surrey Constabulary Appointment Number 5
9 January 1851- July 1851
Superintendent Lincoln and Buckinghamshire

Born 1821 and died 1870 –Langport, Somerset

Parents: Father Samuel Sargent and Mary Sargent

1841 Census: Living in Cornwall, aged 25

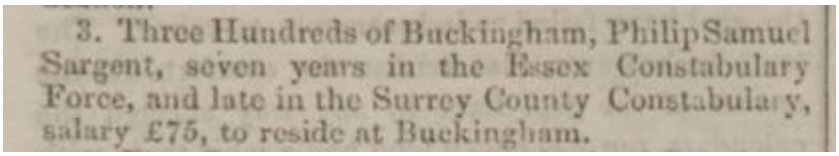
Appointed Surrey Constabulary January 9 sworn 25 January 1851 aged 29. Chief Constable: "Resign for the lax way he did his duties and for being in debt showing he "was not fit for the responsible situation of superintendent."

GO 53 1 July 1851 appointed removed from Dorking Division by Superintendent Bedwell then report to the office of the Chief Constable. GO 55 26 July 1851

Permitted to resign owing to debt. The repeated communications which the Chief Constable has received for some months from Bath, Essex and Dorking having left those places in debt together with the very lax manner in which some of his duties have been performed is not fit for the responsible situation of superintendent. Not wishing to injure the future prospects permitted him to resign.

October 1851 appointed superintendent Buckinghamshire then later Lincoln City

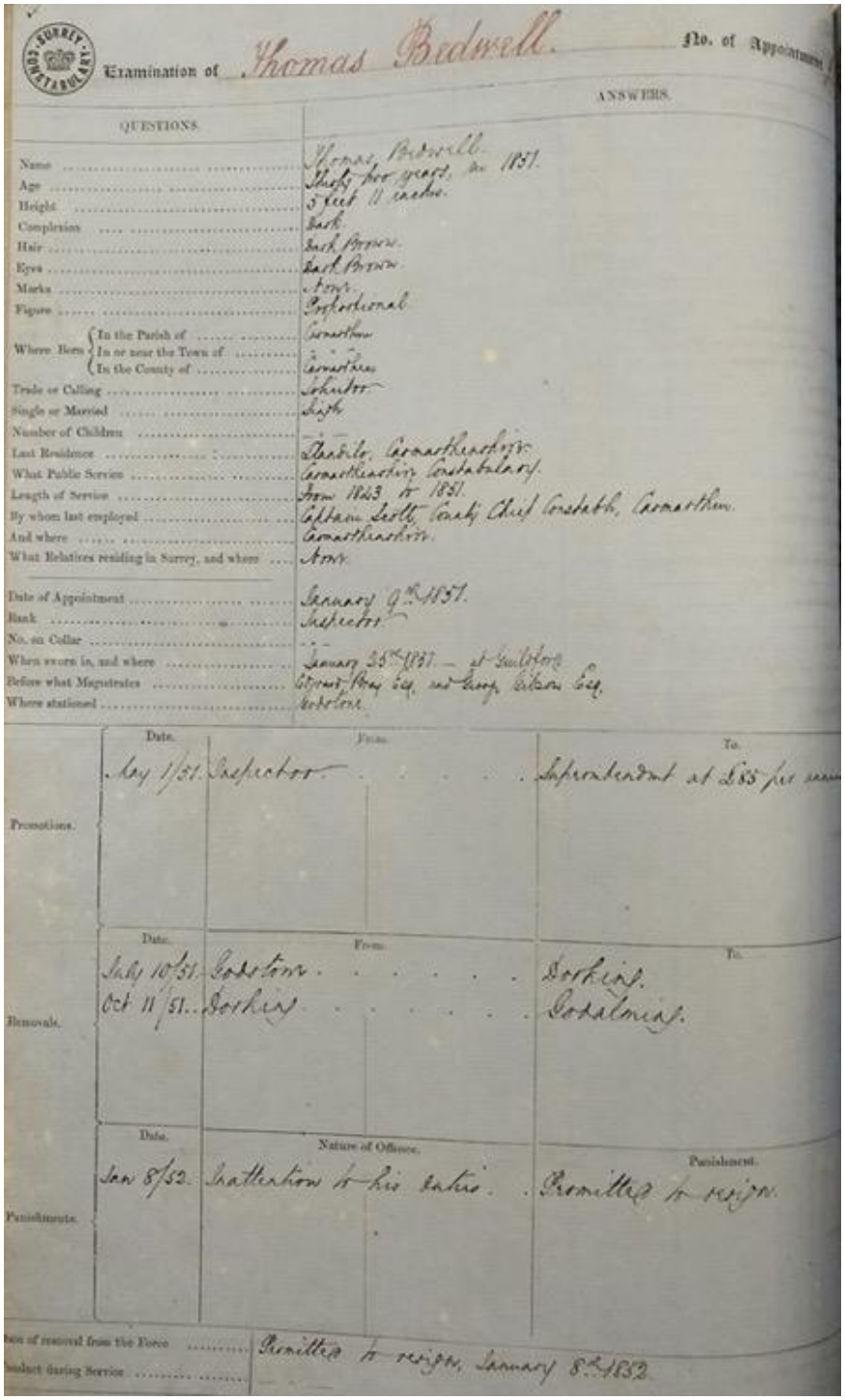
Phillip Samuel Sargent Bucks Herald 18 October 1851


3. Three Hundreds of Buckingham, Philip Samuel Sargent, seven years in the Essex Constabulary Force, and late in the Surrey County Constabulary, salary £75, to reside at Buckingham.

1861 Census: Unmarried living in Somerset with parents age 37 – no occupation
Taken from: Collection Britain directories Almanacs Image:

Buckinghamshire 1850-1859. "Phillip Samuel Sargent, Superintendent of the County Constabulary and Inspector of Weights and Measures."

Superintendent Thomas Bedwell
Carmarthenshire Constabulary 1843-1851
Surrey Constabulary No 6 Appointment Register
January 1851- 8 January 1852



Examination of Thomas Bedwell. No. of Appointment

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Name	Thomas Bedwell.
Age	Thirty four years. in 1851.
Height	5 feet 11 inches.
Completion	Dark.
Hair	Dark Brown.
Eyes	Dark Brown.
Marks	None.
Figure	Proportional.
Where Born — In the Parish of	Carmarthen
Where Born — In or near the Town of	"
Where Born — In the County of	Carmarthen
Trade or Calling	Solicitor
Single or Married	Single.
Number of Children	—
Last Residence	Llandilo. Carmarthenshire.
What Public Service	Carmarthenshire Constabulary.
Length of Service	From 1843 to 1851.
By whom last employed	Captain Scott Early Chief Constable. Carmarthen.
And where	Carmarthenshire.
What Relatives residing in Surrey, and where	None.
Date of Appointment	January 6th 1851.
Rank	Inspector
No. on Collar	—
When sworn in, and where	January 25th 1851 — at Guildford
Before what Magistrates	Edward Abbay Esq. and George Gibson Esq.
Where stationed	Godstone.

	Date.	From.	To.
Promotions.	May 1/51.	Inspector.	Superintendent at £85 per annum
Removals.	July 10/51.	Godstone.	Dorking.
	Oct 11/51.	Dorking.	Godalming.

	Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punishment.
Punishments.	Jan 8/52.	Inattention to his duties.	Permitted to resign.

Reason of removal from the Force: Permitted to resign, January 8th 1852.
Conduct during Service:

Appointment Register[76]

[76] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

Born 1819 – Gloucestershire

From Llandilo Carmarthenshire Constabulary 1843-1851
1851 January 9 Appointed inspector Surrey Constabulary sworn in 25 January 1851. Age 43, 5 feet 11 inch.,

Superintendent GO 32 28 April 1851 £58 per annum Godstone, Dorking and Godalming

GO 53 1 July 1851 appointed Dorking Division

1851 Census: Living Godstone Village, Godstone, as a lodger – age 32 occupation Inspector of Police.

GO 77 1 May 1852; Required to Resign 8 Jan 1852 as superintendent for inattention to his duties.

Nothing further found.

Superintendent Josiah Hawkins Radley
Inspector Essex Constabulary
Surrey Constabulary January Appointment Number 7 1851 -1854
Superintendent Derby, Halifax and Rochester, Kent

From Surrey Constabulary Records:

1816 27th December Josiah Hawkins Radley was born at Castle Hedingham Essex, he was baptized on 26th January 1817 at Castle Hedingham, Essex, his parents were Isaac, a baker and Mary Ann Radley of Castle Hedingham Essex.

1840 24 March Essex Police, number 38, aged 24, a printer, married from Castle Hedingham. His conduct was good and on 5th November 1840 he was promoted to Inspector.

1851 January 9: Appointed Surrey Constabulary as an inspector sworn 25 January. Age 33 November 1851, 5 feet 10 inches

GO54 22 July 1851 Chief Constable express approbation of the general conduct of Inspector Radley appointed inspector and clerk at the rate of £65 pa.

GO56 August 1, 1851 GO 54 cancelled, promoted Superintendent on £85pa

GO72 2 February 1852 Chief Constable observed with much satisfaction the indefatigable energy, perseverance and judgement displayed by Superintendent Radley salary raised £85 to £90

GO 96 May 25, 1853 Radley, Everett and Page suspended for being absent without leave on the day of the Derby.

GO 98 May 27, 1853 Returned to duty Guildford Division and Borough

GO 114 7 November 1854 appointed Superintendent borough of Derby from Guildford Resigned

1859 July 19: Superintendent Rochester

Jenny Tuffs researcher – former Surrey Constabulary January 2021

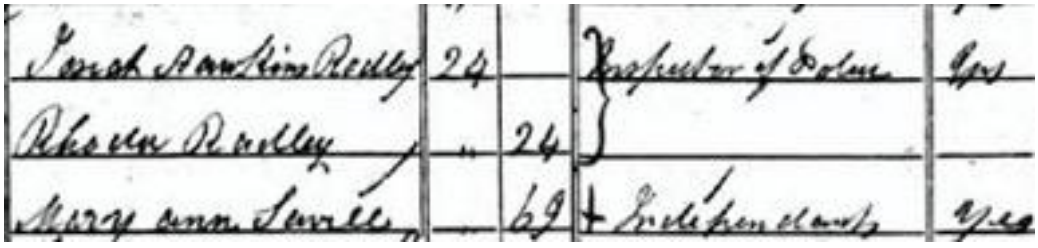
1836 28th June Essex Herald – Marriages –On 20th inst., at St Runwald Colchester, Mr Josiah Radley to Rhoda eldest daughter of the late Mr Pettit, formerly of the Cock Inn, Castle Hedingham.

1840 24th March Josiah H Radley joined Essex Police Force, he was given the collar number 38, he was aged 24years, a printer, married and from Castle Hedingham. His conduct was good and on 5th November 1840 he was promoted to Inspector.

1840 5th December The Suffolk Chronicle - The Attack on Police at Hedingham- Mehuman Newman 27years, and James Newman, 72years, labourers were indicted for assaulting Josiah Hawkins Radley, a police constable of Sible Hedingham on 24th October, the jury found them both guilty. Josiah Hawkins Radley had enrolled in the new 'rural police' as Constable 38 six months previously and after training he was posted to Sible Hedingham.

This incident is described in Essex Police History Notebook number 13, by Fred Feather, curator of Essex Police Museum and the book, 'A Grim Almanac of Essex'. **1840 24 October PC30 Josiah Hawkins Radley:** The village constable of Sible Hedingham, was keeping an eye on the home of the Newmans, a local family of ne'er-do-wells, during the hours of darkness. Hearing footsteps he hid himself in a hedgerow and watched as Mehuman Newman came into view carrying a large sack over his shoulder. Immediately suspicious Radley challenged Newman demanding to know what was in the sack. Defiantly Newman kicked out at the policeman who drew his truncheon and fended off his would -be assailant. Newman dropped the sack and ran home. Just as Radley realised the sack contained a dead sheep, Newman returned with his strongly built father James, 72, both carrying iron bars which they used against Radley before he had time to react. He was bludgeoned into unconsciousness and by the time he came round again the sack and its contents were gone. Locals attended to the wounded constable and Superintendent Redin was sent for from Castle Hedingham. When he arrived, he armed himself with a pistol before bursting into the Newman's cottage and ordering them to come quietly. Brought before the magistrates James got twelve months hard labour for the assault and Mehuman received a month's hard labour for the assault and 15 years transportation for the theft of the sheep.

1841 Census shows Josiah Hawkins Radley aged 24 years, an Inspector of Police and Rhoda Radley aged 24years living in Colchester Road, Halstead, Essex.



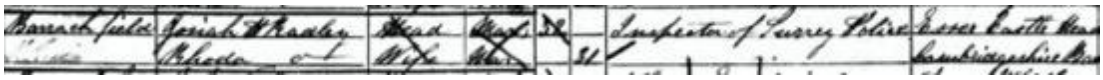
Josiah Radley resigned from Essex Police on 16th February 1843 to join Eastern Counties Railway Police. On 27th June 1843 he re-joined Essex Police Force and was given collar number 1. His conduct was again described as good and he was promoted to Inspector on 16th October 1844 and resigned on 31st August 1845.

1847 27th August Essex Standard - The North Essex Election- Josiah Radley was listed as a voter in Castle Hedingham District

1848 14th November Josiah H Radley once again joined Essex Police Force and was given collar number 77 but five days later on 19th November he resigned.

1851 Josiah Radley was **one of the first recruits** to the new Surrey Constabulary. His previous occupation listed Essex Constabulary and aged 33 years; 5 feet 110 inches tall. He was appointed an inspector on 9 January 1851.

1851 Census for Barrack Field, Guildford lists Josiah H Radley aged 32 years, inspector of Surrey Police born Castle Hedingham Essex living with Rhoda, his wife.



1851 6th May Sussex Advertiser - At Guildford Borough Police Court Clement Marshall, a lad of fourteen was charged under the Juvenile Offenders Act with having stolen three brass terrets (loops or rings on a horse's harness pad for the driving reins to pass through) and one brass buckle the property of Mr John W Paris. Mr Paris was a horse dealer living in Guildford and on the morning of Saturday 26th he went to the stable to harness the horses and found that three brass terrets had been taken from the harness. He questioned his servant who said he knew who had taken them. Mr Paris had seen the three terrets produced at court and swore to them being his property. Josiah Hawkins Radley stated he was an Inspector of the new County Constabulary and on the evening of 26th inst., he apprehended the prisoner who told him he had taken the brass terrets from Mr Paris's stable, and he hoped Mr Paris would not do anything to him for it. Marshall declined to say anything and was sentenced to seven days hard labour.
Surrey Constabulary General Order GO 54 22 July 1851 Chief Constable express approbation of the general conduct of Inspector Radley appointed inspector and clerk at the rate of £65 pa.

GO56 August 1, 1851 GO 54 cancelled, promoted Superintendent on £85pa

1851 2nd December Sussex Advertiser- Dextrous apprehension of a very suspicious character – On Friday night last about 10 o'clock our active and vigilant Superintendent Radley effected a most important capture. He was near the street leading to the Railway Station when he observed a man, evidently a stranger to town, looking about him as if undecided which way he should go. The man's appearance answered the description of a person advertised in the Police Gazette as having absconded after committing a burglary at Walton on Thames, and the Superintendent was consequently determined to watch him. He made an instantaneous change in his dress, to avoid exciting suspicion and followed the man some distance up the Portsmouth road. The man made a stop at one of the large houses there and after looking at it for some time he turned back, went down to Mount Street and into the Wheatsheaf Public House.

The superintendent followed him and made some enquiries with the land lady and others, all the time scanning the appearance of the man. Feeling more and more satisfied that he was right in his conjectures respecting him, the superintendent accosted him, and said he must see what he had about him. The man, finding the game was up, submitted quietly to the operation of

searching and the first thing taken from his pocket was a stack and large centre bit, in common use among burglars. In the opposite pocket he found a very large instrument called a life preserver, certainly the largest and most formidable weapon he had seen. The search continued and he asked the man if he had a bundle. He at first denied he had but afterwards said he had but there was nothing in it.

On searching it, however a lot of skeleton keys were found as well as other articles, making up along with those previously found, the complete stock in trade of a finished 'cracksman'. The superintendent at once took the man into custody and he gave the name of Alfred Garnet, and said he was a journeyman harness maker, travelling in search of work, he had travelled that day from Alton and he had previously been in Portsmouth, Gosport and Southampton. On Saturday he was brought before the Police Office charged with being in possession of skeleton keys and housebreaking implements without reasonable excuse and a long list of articles found on him was produced. He was then remanded until the following Monday. The magistrates expressing the opinion that very great credit was due to Superintendent Radley for his conduct on this occasion.

1851 16th December Sussex Advertiser – Guildford Borough Police Court- A Smasher- Henry Lloyd was brought up in custody charged with having in his possession a quantity of counterfeit coin, purporting to be shillings and sixpences, with intent to utter the same. Josiah Hawkins Radley, superintendent of police, deposed that from suspicions entertained by him that parcels containing bad money had frequently been sent to the Swan beer house in Swan Lane where the prisoner was lodging, he went on Monday night, the 8th to the Railway Station and remained there watching the arrival of several trains from London. By the 7 o'clock train, a brown paper parcel arrived, directed to 'Joseph Mills, Swan, Swan Lane, Guildford' He opened the parcel and in it found the coin he then produced, it was wrapped up in a piece of rag, and consisted of 80 pieces purporting to be shillings and 8 pieces purporting to be sixpences. He also found a letter in the parcel, which he produced. He packed the parcel up again in the same manner as it was before and caused its delivery to be delayed until Tuesday morning. He made arrangements with one of the porters that he should take the parcel to the Swan at 10 o'clock in the morning.

He (Superintendent Radley) then stationed himself in apposition as to be able to see the parcel being delivered and saw it delivered to Mrs Seabrook, the landlady. The prisoner being outside washing but directly the porter had gone he went to the bar and took the parcel from Mrs Seabrook, after about six or seven minutes he came back down and the (the superintendent) immediately seized and searched him. In his trouser pocket was the coin produced wrapped in piece of rag. The coin and rag being the same as were in the parcel addressed to the prisoner and opened by him at the station. The prisoner said, 'It's not mine' and he (the superintendent) said 'You know it is bad money' and the prisoner answered 'Yes, I was going to send it to a friend of mine at Hastings or Portsmouth'. He (the superintendent) being unable to remember which. The prisoner refused to name his friend and was remanded until Monday.

1852 13th January Sussex Advertiser - Guildford - Superintendent Josiah Hawkins Radley was appointed Inspector of Nuisances by the unanimous vote of the Commissioners.

GO72 2 February 1852 Chief Constable observed with much satisfaction the indefatigable energy, perseverance and judgement displayed by Superintendent Radley salary raised £85 to £90

1852 13 April, John Keene was hanged at Horsemonger Lane Gaol, Southwark, for the murder of Charles Broomer on or about the 9 February. This incident was reported in Newspapers across England, this is believed to be the first case of capital punishment to be investigated by the Surrey Constabulary.

In **May 1848** Jane Broomer gave birth to an illegitimate child, she named him Charles and with the support of her family she was determined to keep the child and bring him up. For the first three months after the birth, she lived with her mother, Ann at home but then decided that she should move on and then entered the Guildford Workhouse with her baby.

This proved to be a temporary arrangement and after a few months, she found a job as a domestic servant. She paid someone t look after her son while she was at work this was a good arrangement and lasted until she met and married john Keene. Baby Charles returned to his mother and her husband John.

In December 1850 she gave birth to another son, of whom John Keene was the father. Keene depended on casual employment as a labourer to earn enough money to support his growing family. Times were really hard towards the end of 1850 and Keene was unable to secure very much work.

On the 10 January 1851 they all entered the workhouse and stayed there until the 6th February when they left the Institute and for the next three nights they lodged with a friend of Jane's, Jane Barfoot in Guildford.

On the night of the 9th February Jane, Keene's wife stayed with a friend, Hannah Ranger, but only took her youngest son with her. Hannah knew little Charles and asked after him, in answer to any questions about him Jane always said that he had died in London a little while ago. Little Charles would never be seen alive ever again.

However, in January 1852, Jane went to visit her mother and shocked her by telling her that Charles had been murdered by her husband the previous February. Her husband had told Jane that if ever she informed on him, he would kill her. She had become very frightened by him and was scared of leaving him. She continued with her story saying that the child's body was at the bottom of Warren Well on Albury Heath. She said that her husband had beaten the little boy with a heavy stick and she had watched helplessly as he picked the child up and hurled him into the well; she heard the 'splash' as the child hit the water.

Jane's mother was so shocked, she sat down and started to cry and then she became very angry both with Jane and her husband. She went to see The Reverend Hooper, the local priest and there related the story to him. He, in turn went to report the facts to the police. Superintendent Radley visited the Keene's at their lodgings. Jane was alone at home at this time. and told the policeman she knew why he had come to see her. She related the story and made a statement as to the facts. Soon after her interview, her husband, John Keene was arrested and taken into custody. In his statement he said that his wife had killed the baby.

The police called upon a local well digger to assist them in the recovery of Charles'remains. The well digger, William Edsor made a number of descents into the well, each time going further down. It was very difficult work but eventually he recovered the remains of the little boy. What remained of the little boy was badly decomposed and although several limbs had become detached from the trunk. Mr. Edsor stated that in his opinion the child had died while sat up against the wall of the well. This suggested that he had been alive when he reached the bottom, the water breaking his fall. Several items of child's clothing were also recovered.

At the post-mortem it was concluded that the remains were that of a male child, 3 or 4 years old. The various items of clothing that had been recovered were identified by Jane's friends as being very similar to clothes they had seen Charles wearing.

On the 25 March 1852 John Keene and his wife, Jane both appeared at court charged with the murder of little Charles Broomer. They also both pleaded 'not guilty.' John Keene was now 20 years old while his wife, Jane was 5 years older. Jane told the court that her husband killed her son and she saw him do it. John insisted that it was the other way around; it was his wife who killed the little boy and threw him down the well.

It wasn't long before the Jury returned with their verdict. They found Jane not guilty while they found John Keene to be guilty of the murder. The Judge sentenced John Keene to death.

On the 13 April 1852 Keene was duly hanged for the murder and watched by a huge crowd of thousands of people. Walking up to the gallows John Keene still insisted that he was innocent saying that they were killing an innocent man.

GO 96 May 25, 1853 Radley, Everett and Page suspended for being absent without leave on the day of the Derby.

GO 98 May 27, 1853 Returned to duty Guildford Division and Borough

1853 12th July, Sussex Advertiser – Guildford- Caution to Policemen – James Gale, a constable in the Surrey Police Force, was brought before the magistrates charged with absconding from his duty without permission of the Chief Constable. Superintendent Radley deposed that on Saturday, the 2nd inst., the prisoner had left his beat and enlisted into the Grenadier Guards Regiment. The clause relating to the offence having been referred to, the prisoner was sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour.

1854 Josiah Radley resigned from Surrey Police for an appointment as Superintendent in Derby.

GO 114 7 November 1854 appointed Superintendent borough of Derby from Guildford

1854 10th November Derbyshire Advertiser: The Watch Committee at Derby were informed that Mr J H Radley formerly of the Essex County Police and the late Superintendent of the Surrey County Constabulary at Guildford had been **appointed the new Superintendent** of Police. Mr Alderman Barber wished to know if he was unanimously appointed by the committee and if he were not, he should recommend another person to the office. He was told there were five members of the committee for Mr Radley and one against. Mr Alderman Barber alluded to the importance of having an efficient officer and moved the matter be again referred to the committee and that the application of Mr Samuel Pope of Teignmouth Devon be considered alongside Mr Radley's. Mr Pope had been the means of bringing thousands of cases before the magistrates and had also been many years in the Metropolitan Police. The motion was seconded and after considerable discussion Mr Alderman Barber withdrew his motion and it was confirmed that Mr Radley was the new Superintendent.

1855 14th February Derby Mercury – At the Watch Committee meeting the Mayor stated 'Mr **Radley is going on very well**, he is very active and attentive to his duties'.

1855 17th March Derbyshire Courier: An **officious Superintendent:** Mr Radley, Superintendent of Police at Derby was **fined £2** with costs for striking Corporal Tooth, of the First Derbyshire Militia, with a whip during the time he was crossing the running ground on the Derby Racecourse on the previous Monday. The Bench being of the opinion that the officer had exceeded his duty.

1855 17th November West Surrey Times, At Guildford County Court: Richard Jeffery v Josiah Hawkins Radley, A **claim for £2 5s for a pistol**. Plaintiff proved supplying defendant with a double-barrelled pistol, the price of which was £2 5s. Defendant was now living in Derbyshire and he had not paid the amount. Payment was ordered.

1855 15th December West Surrey Times. At the County Court, Town Hall, Godalming. Youdall v Radley. This was a **claim for 15s** for a pair of trousers supplied to defendant who had left the neighbourhood and is now Superintendent of Police at Derby. An order was made for payment on 29th.

1856 6th June Derbyshire Advertiser: Pitch and Toss: Wm Day was charged by Superintendent Radley with playing pitch and toss in North Street, Duffield Road on Saturday evening. The Superintendent said great complaints had been made of the lads playing the above game. It had become an intolerable nuisance and his instructions were to take them into custody. The Bench said for the future they should convict parties so offending, but as this was the first case, they should merely suspend the charge.

1856 20th June Derbyshire Advertiser Derby County Court Case of Ball v Radley. The plaintiff John Ball was a former member of Derby Police Force and the **defendant Mr Josiah Hawkins Radley, Superintendent of Derby Police**, the action being brought to recover the sum of 2s 6d for doing extra duty at Derby Arboretum on 9th and 30th September last. Mr Ball stated that between May and September last year arrangements were made with Mr Radley to find men to do extra duty at the Arboretum, for which they were to receive 1s 3d a day extra pay. He went on three occasions and was paid but after 1st September he had been several times and not paid. When he asked Mr Radley for the money, he was told there was none to pay him with. Mr Ball was told he must show that Mr Radley had received money from the Arboretum Committee before he could be held responsible for the payment.

Mr Radley produced the rules of the force to the court but Mr Ball said he believed these rules were for the Borough only and the Arboretum was in the County. The Judge quoted the rules "Each constable employed on the Police must devote his whole time to the service. He must reside in such part of the town as may be required by the committee. He will not be permitted to take money for the discharge of any duty he may be required to perform, without the knowledge and permission of the magistrates, committee or Superintendent ". Mr Radley said that the policeman's wages were considered sufficient renumeration for any duty he might be called upon to perform and he produced a book showing the last amount he received from the Arboretum Committee was on 2nd September, which had been paid to the men. Since that time no money had been allowed to policemen. His Honour observed that according to the rules the plaintiff had engaged to give the whole of his time for the wages he received and as he had placed himself under the authority of the Superintendent there was no claim in a court of law. The verdict being given to the defendant.

1856 2nd July Derby Mercury: Derby Arboretum Committee **thanked** Mr Superintendent Radley and the Police Force under his direction for their very efficient services.

1856 17th December Derby Mercury: Derby Police: **Begging**. A respectable looking mechanic, who gave his name as John Harris was charged by Police Constable Shaw with begging in the Rotten Row. It appeared he had applied for relief at the relieving office but was refused and told to go to the Police Station. Here, Mr Radley, finding the man in a most destitute condition gave him something to eat. The prisoner said he was a wood turner and had walked from Birmingham on Tuesday night without having anything to eat, and the only food he had the following day was one halfpenny cake. On him promising to leave town the Bench gave him 1s out of the poor box.

1857 White's History Gazetteer and Directory of Derbyshire and Sheffield and Derbyshire History, Gazetteer and Directory both list **Superintendent of Police for Derby** as Josiah H Radley

1857 10th July Derbyshire Advertiser: Fraudulent Obtainance of goods. At Preston Quarter Sessions Charles Collins and George Fincher (the two men who were cleverly

apprehended a short time go by Mr Radley Superintendent of Police in Derby), were charged with conspiring together for the purpose of obtaining goods with the intent to defraud. They were convicted and sentenced to one year imprisonment each with hard labour.

1857 12th August Derby Mercury, at a meeting of the Watch Committee it was stated Mr **Radley received 15s annually for clothes** and although there was no stipulation that he should wear a uniform coat the committee thought he should do so at times., therefore 15s was not an unreasonable sum.

1857 26th August Derby Mercury: The Borough Police: Major General Cartwright, **Government Inspector of Police**, inspected the Police Force of the borough at County Hall. After a close examination of the men, he expressed himself highly pleased with the general appearance stating he had seldom seen a more efficient body of men. He also inspected the books and made several enquiries, remarking that the whole reflected great credit on Mr Superintendent Radley.

1857 11th November Derby Mercury: At a meeting of Derby Town Council Alderman Gisborne said, "I also have to thank Mr Radley and the Police for their successful efforts in **preserving good order in the borough**. In Mr Radley I believe you have a very able officer, and I may be allowed so to express myself, a very successful practitioner, for he has not only angled in tempting holes in Derby but has gone into adjoining counties and often hooked a thief (hear, hear and laughter). The Police are more efficient now than they were and you will hear today a favourable report from the Government Inspector. I trust that Mr Radley and the Police will cultivate a good understanding with the county constabulary, for it is by the union of these two that we may expect criminals will be more easily captured.

1857 17th December Nottinghamshire Guardian: Local Intelligence: Mr **Radley has resigned** his situation as superintendent of the Derby Borough Police.

1857 19th December West Surrey Times: Godalming: At the County Court: Holden v **Radley**, the plaintiff is a bootmaker at Godalming and **sued the defendant** who is a Superintendent of Police, lately belonging to the Surrey Constabulary but now stationed in Derby for the sum of £2 5s 6d, the value of boots and shoes supplied. His Honour looking over the account observed an item of 5s 6d as interest and asked the plaintiff what it meant. The plaintiff said the account had now been standing three years and he had charged interest on it. His Honour said he could do no such thing unless he had given notice to the defendant that if the account was not paid by a certain day interest would be charged. This the plaintiff had not done and his Honour therefore struck this item out. An order of payment was made for £1 every four weeks.

1858 22nd January Derbyshire Advertiser, At Derby County Court, Interpleader Case: Lowe v Price and Radley. The plaintiff, Mr John Lowe, **interpleaded to recover the value of certain goods** which formerly belonged to Mr **Radley,** late superintendent of Police, Derby, against which Mr Lowe has a judgement summons in the County Court., to the amount of £20. It appeared from the evidence that in August last, Mr James Price, accountant, Victoria Street,

lent Mr Radley £50 upon the joint note of himself and others, and in December last, Mr Price lent Mr Radley another £50 secured by a bill of sale on Radley's goods. It also appeared Mr Lowe lent Mr Radley £20 a short time ago and got a verdict for that amount on the previous court day. He put an execution in Radley's house and found the bill of sale in previous. In order that the sale might proceed, the amount of Lowe's execution was deposited with the High Baliff. Mr Simmonds who was appearing for the plaintiff tried to upset the bill of sale but his Honour after hearing Mr Briggs, for the defendant, Mr Price and Mr Radley, without hesitation found a verdict for the defendant.

1858 22nd January Derbyshire Advertiser: Derby: The Borough Police: Mr George Hilton, of Town Malling, Kent was **appointed Superintendent** of the Derby Police in lieu of Mr Radley who had resigned.

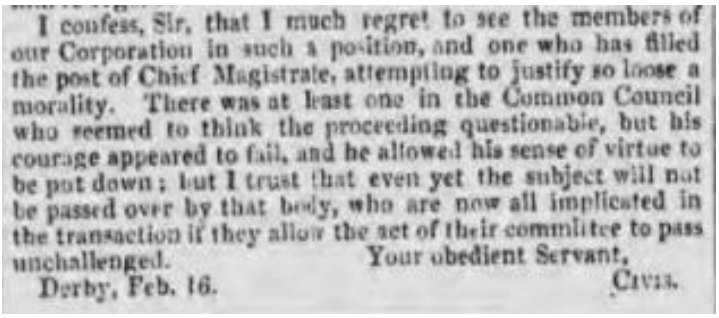
1858 5th February Derbyshire Advertiser. At a meeting of Derby Watch Committee Mr Spurgeon asked if testimonial had been given by the Watch Committee to the late Superintendent, Mr Radley, and if so, what was the character of the testimonial. Mr Alderman Pegg replied. "We gave Mr Radley a testimonial, but I decline to answer the question as to the character of it." Mr Alderman Madeley stated that Mr Spurgeon's motion was irrelevant as there was nothing on the proceedings of the Watch Committee referring to this matter and Mr J Richardson stated that Mr Radley had been a good officer until a certain time. Mr Spurgeon thought the question very important, for if they gave a testimonial to Mr Radley, how could they depend on testimonials brought to them from other counties. Mr Pegg replied that Mr Radley was given all he deserved but keeping out a little of the dark side.

1858 10th February Derby Mercury Derby Watch Committee stated they had given a character for general efficiency to Mr Radley, the late Superintendent of Police.

1858 17th February Derby Mercury Two letters to the editor regarding Mr Radley: Pray allow me the space for a very few words in reply to the letter of "Civis" in your paper last week. The testimonial given by the watch committee to the late Superintendent of Police, referred exclusively to his efficiency as an officer. Upon this point alone he asked for a certificate and the committee were unanimous of opinion that he was entitled to one. That this testimonial "will enable Mr Radley to deceive everyone to whom it is shown" is an unwarranted assumption. The omissions are too obvious to escape notice; they have already led to inquiries where the testimonials have been seen. Mr Radley has, I am informed, has succeeded in obtaining a subordinate situation in a County Police Force, a circumstance which will. I am sure, give pleasure to all the gentlemen of the Derby Watch Committee, gentlemen who must be supposed to be at least as well acquainted with Mr Radley's demerits as "Civis" can be, and yet who would rejoice to hear of his regaining, by his future good conduct, the position in life he has now lost.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant
Robert Pegg
Chairman of the Watch Committee
Derby Feb 14 1858

1858 February 16 response to the above letter again from "Civis." ---- what was the object of the written character given to Mr Radley? Was it not to obtain another situation which it appears that the Watch Committee are amiably anxious he should though they thought it right to dismiss him from their own? For any other purpose it were worthless---. Were not those who were likely to engage him entitled to know the whole truth? Would they be likely to take him had the whole been stated. Was it likely when they received a flowing character from such a body as the Derby Corporation or one of its committees would be taken to be --- the dark side was supressed?



I confess, Sir, that I much regret to see the members of our Corporation in such a position, and one who has filled the post of Chief Magistrate, attempting to justify so loose a morality. There was at least one in the Common Council who seemed to think the proceeding questionable, but his courage appeared to fail, and he allowed his sense of virtue to be put down; but I trust that even yet the subject will not be passed over by that body, who are now all implicated in the transaction if they allow the act of their committee to pass unchallenged.

Your obedient Servant,

Derby, Feb. 16. CIVIS.

1858 5th May Derby Mercury, County of Derby expenditure from April 1857 to April 1858 lists £4 4s 6d was given to J H Radley, Superintendent of Derby Police as sundry expenses.

1858 22nd September The Morning Post - Supposed Incendiary Fire near Halifax - A fire of alarming character occurred on Sunday evening in the village of Warley about two miles from Halifax and one from Sowerby Bridge. The barn attached to the farm of Mr Henry Hargreaves, at Winterburn Hill was burnt to the ground, occasioning the loss of a large quantity of hay and grain, together with four fine cows. From what can be ascertained it appears clear that the fire was the work of an incendiary. Mr Hargreaves left the premises apparently safe at nine o'clock, when he retired to his house adjacent. About midnight he was alarmed by his wife, who discovered the fire by the crackling noise it made. He endeavoured to open the door of the barn or mistal but could not because of an obstruction within. He then obtained the assistance of some neighbouring farmers but the flames had become too powerful, and the premises destroyed. On Monday morning some lucifer matches were found in the road, about ten yads from the back of the building and what tends to confirm the opinion that the fire was the work of an incendiary is, that on the same night, a horse belonging to Mr Hargreaves and grazing in a neighbouring field was cut on the hind legs and its mane cut off. Mr Superintendent Radley and the police of the district made strict inquiries into the incident and Mr Radley apprehended a man named William Heap (who was shearing for Mr Webb in a field at Cote-Hill) on suspicion of being the perpetrator of the cruel injury sustained by Mr Hargreaves. Heap and the farmer have not been on good terms for some time, in consequence of an improper intimacy which is said to have existed between Heap and Mrs Hargreaves. So heavy is the loss for Mr Hargreaves that unless his friends and neighbours come forward to assist him, he will be a ruined man.

1858 11th September Leeds Intelligence: **Accident to Police Superintendent**. Mr Radley, superintendent of the rural police of Halifax division, when on duty at Leeds on Tuesday was

thrown from his horse, at the junction of Wellington Road and Boar Lane. A shout raised by the crowd caused the animal to rear. He was not much hurt.

1858 25th September Preston Chronicle at West Riding Magistrates Court William Heap was remanded in custody until the next Saturday and Superintendent Radley stated he thought he should be able to obtain sufficient evidence to warrant a conviction. The **farm of Mr Hargreaves is still burning** and has been visited by thousands from neighbouring towns and villages. At Yorkshire Crown Court on Monday 20th December the jury under the direction of his lordship a verdict of not guilty was given in this case.

1858 2nd November Leeds Mercury: **Death by violence and highway robbery** near Halifax. A man named Dan Beverley came to his death in a very tragic manner at a place near Halifax on Saturday night. The deceased was a man of some means, he kept a beer shop at Crossroads, situate at Mount Tabor not far from Cold Edgemoor, one of the wild spots so graphically described in the novels of Currer Bell. He was found at Sand Beds, beyond New Pellon about 8o'clock in a hopeless condition and died soon after his removal to his home. It appeared that on Saturday he went to Halifax on business, having in his possession about £61in gold and coins. What money he paid and what he received is not known but it was certain he would have a pretty large sum on him when he returned home. He left Halifax for Warley with a cart load of potatoes about 7 o'clock. He was afterwards seen going towards home in the company of two men, one of whom sat in the cart, as if to take care of him while the other drove the horse. When they arrived at New Pellon, Beverley had got out of the cart and it is supposed his companions robbed him of his money and deserted him About two hundred yards up the road Beverley was observed to fall down and as soon as assistance could be procured was conveyed home where he died the following morning. Whether the injuries which caused his dearth were inflicted by his robbers or the result of his fall, is not known., but many suppose he was subjected to great violence by the two men who accompanied him from Halifax.

The district constable was grossly negligent in his duty as he was informed of the incident the same night but did not report it to his superior or take any steps until Sunday morning. The borough Authorities were the first to be involved and in conjunction with Mr Superintendent Radley were soon on the track of the suspects, Ralph Drake and David Farrar who are now in custody.

The prisoners made statements stating they knew the deceased well and they knew he had money on him on Saturday night he was so drunk that they went towards his home with him then just before the place he was found handed him over to a comber or weaver before going home in the opposite direction. The men were granted remand and an inquest was ordered on the body. Leeds Mercury 6th November continues the story- The prisoners were brought before John Waterhouse at the County Office on Thursday and Mr Superintendent Radley reminded the magistrates that the men were remanded on Monday on a charge of what was then supposed to be murder and highway robbery. Since then, a coroner's inquest found Mr Beverley died from natural causes. He had since made every inquiry but could not make up a charge against

the prisoners for robbery, one link was wanting, therefore asked for them to be discharged and if additional evidence came to light, they could again be apprehended.

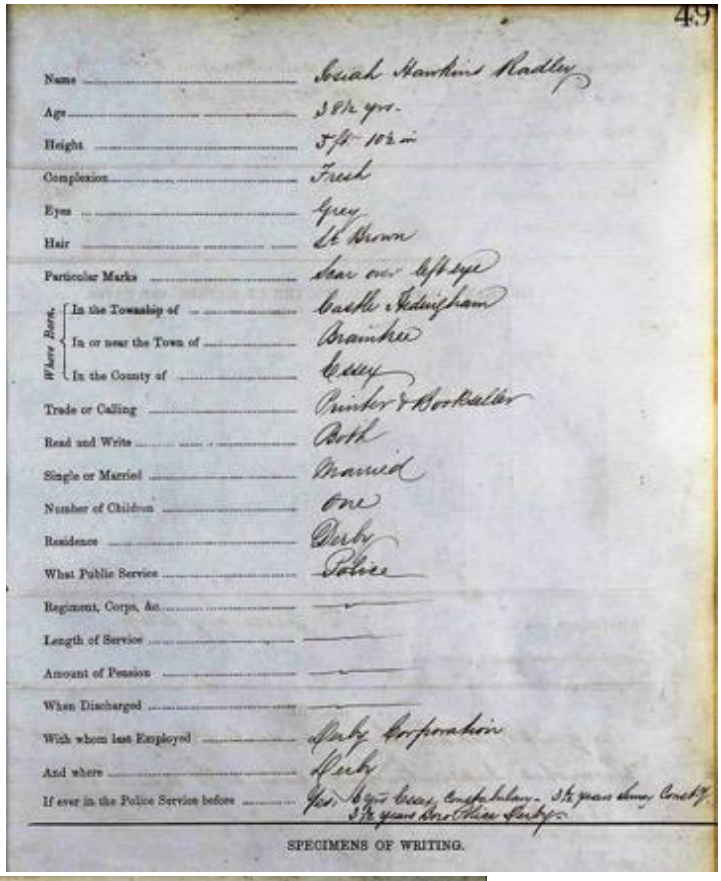
Mr Waterhouse addressed the prisoners saying 'I congratulate you most sincerely on the fact the coroner's jury returned a verdict which in their judgement and I hope in the judgement of the world acquits you of the most serious charge that can be brought against any man, that of wilful murder. As for the charge of Highway robbery, there is no evidence against you before me and I therefore have no wish, nor indeed the power to retain you. Let it be a warning to you as long as you live. You were the last persons seen with this poor man, he died and was in no respectable state at the time. He was affected by drink and probably you were too. Intemperance has brought you to this state and the slightest alteration of the circumstances might have led to you being hanged. Let it be a warning to keep from the beer shop. Such a case may occur again and this cannot fail to be remembered against you. Therefore, take warning. You are discharged'. Mr Barstow, who was representing the prisoners then stated that in justice to the two men, that if the case had proceeded, he was in a position to show that they were not the last persons seen with the deceased- Mr Radley said emphatically that they were. The prisoners. then left the dock and were set at liberty.

1858 18th December West Surrey Times, Judgement **Summons: Holden v Radley**: Defendant, who did not appear, was lately a superintendent in the Surrey Constabulary, but is now Superintendent of Police at Halifax. The debt had been owing for some time and an order of committal for 21 days was made.

1859 10th February Bradford Observer-Halifax – Superintendent of Police – Mr Radley has been **removed from the post of Superintendent of the West Riding Police**, Halifax Division and Mr Wardle of Selby, appointed in his place.

Josiah Hawkins Radley now changes his year of birth to 1821 and uses the name Joseph Radley or Joseph Josiah Hawkins Radley. He is living with Sarah Ann (Moss) who used the surname Radley, and her son, who also used surname Radley (no birth record can be found for him under surname Radley or Moss) although he was still married to Rhoda. When he was dismissed from West Riding Constabulary the document stated he was married with one child so it seems likely he was living with Sarah Ann at this time.

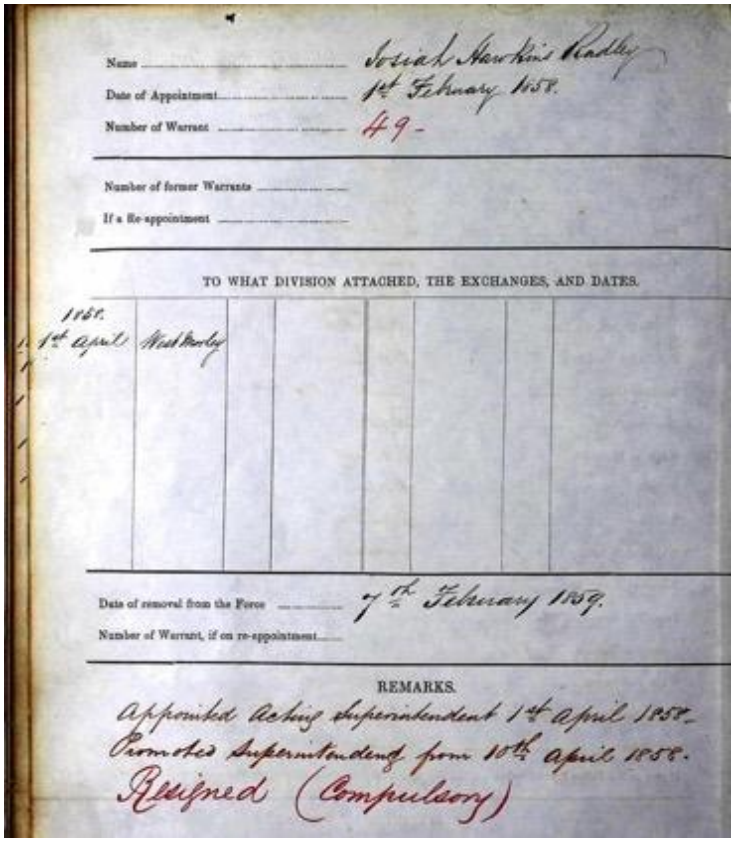
1859 19th July South Eastern Gazette – **Rochester and Chatham**: The New Police Force, Election of Superintendent. As special meeting of the Watch Committee was held for the purpose of electing a new Superintendent. Sixteen of the candidates were considered eligible and four were requested to attend before the committee. All the testimonials were of the highest character but after careful consideration **Mr J H Radley of Derby** who had been connected for many years with the Police Force of that town was unanimously elected.



49

Name — Josiah Hawkins Radley
Age — 38½ yrs.
Height — 5ft 10½ in
Complexion — Fresh
Eyes — Grey
Hair — Lt Brown
Particular Marks — Scar over left eye
Where Born. In the Township of — Castle Eden[sic]ham
In or near the Town of — Brainkee
In the County of — Essex
Trade or Calling — Printer & Bookseller
Read and Write — Both
Single or Married — Married
Number of Children — One
Residence — Derby
What Public Service — Police
Regiment, Corps, &c. — —
Length of Service — —
Amount of Pension — —
When Discharged — —
With whom last Employed — Derby Corporation
And where — Derby
If ever in the Police Service before — Yes. 6 yrs 6 mos, Enfield Police. 3½ years Army Cavalry. 3½ years Ass Police Derby.

SPECIMENS OF WRITING.



Name — Josiah Hawkins Radley
Date of Appointment — 1st February 1858.
Number of Warrant — 49.

Number of former Warrants —
If a Re-appointment —

TO WHAT DIVISION ATTACHED, THE EXCHANGES, AND DATES.

1858. 1st April	West Riding						

Date of removal from the Force — 7th February 1859.
Number of Warrant, if on re-appointment —

REMARKS.

Appointed Acting Superintendent 1st April 1858.
Promoted Superintendent from 10th April 1858.
Resigned (Compulsory)

Josiah Hawkins Radley
West Riding Appointment Register

1859 20th August Maidstone Journal: Rochester The New Police: The **newly appointed Police Force under Superintendent Radley**, have this week commenced their drills at the Guildhall. They appear to be a fine body of men and will no doubt prove equal to the efficient discharge of their duties.

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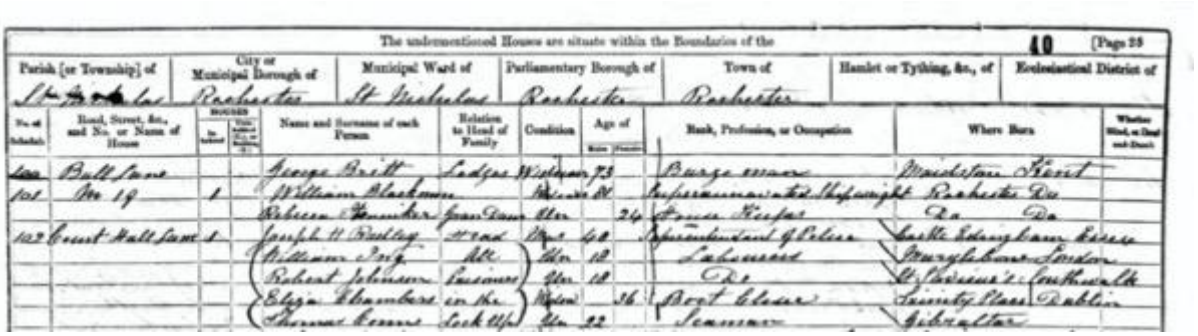
1860 21st March to 1866 Joseph Hawkins Radley, aged 40 years Superintendent of Police at Rochester was a **Freemason** and member of Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity at Chatham Kent

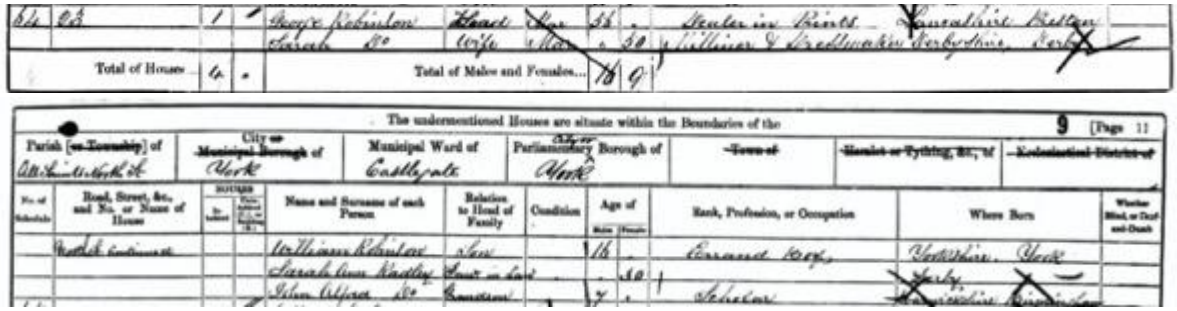
1860 22 May Morning Chronicle: Thames Court: **Robbing a mistress** of £305: Ann Dent, aged 29 years, wife of a cab driver was brought before Mr Selfe charged with stealing £305 in gold and Bank of England notes, and a gold watch and chain value 20 guineas, the property of Mrs Louisa Fisher, dealer in marine stores of 62 Leman Street Whitechapel. The husband and niece of the prisoner had previously been before the court on charges relating to the incident. Mr J H Radley, superintendent of Rochester Police, stated that on 7th April last the prisoner, a servant to Mrs Fisher, absconded taking with her a cash box containing £305 and a gold watch belonging to her mistress. He received information of the robbery and a few days since heard the prisoner was in Kent, shifting from place to place.

On Saturday he traced her to Charlton Green near Dover, and knowing he had a cautious and cunning woman to deal with, described himself as a foreman ropemaker from the dockyard, and had a message for her from an acquaintance named Cross, who was working with him in the same shed, (she had been staying at the house of Mr Cross). The statement threw the prisoner off guard and she at once gave her name as Ann Dent and became exceedingly communicative. He then said to her 'You are my prisoner and must come to London on the charge of robbing Mrs Fisher.' He demanded the keys of her boxes and found a great quantity of new dresses, linen and other property, and £90 in gold. Like her husband and niece, she was then remanded in custody. This case was reported in several newspapers and London Evening Standard of 7th June carried the verdict. Ann Dent pleaded guilty and was given two years imprisonment with hard labour. The judge stating that considering the zeal and activity of the superintendent of Rochester Police in the case, the court would mark his sense of conduct by offering him a gratuity of 5s.

1861 Census for Court Hall Lane Rochester lists Joseph H Radley, married, Superintendent of Police born Castle Edington (sic) Essex along with three men who were listed as prisoners in the lock up.



1861 Census for North Street York lists Sarah Ann Radley and son John Alfred Radley living with George and Sarah Robinson.



1861 14th May Maidstone Journal Apprehension Sergeant Featherstone – Sergeant Featherstone of Rochester City Police absconded the day before Good Friday, taking with him money intended for payment of the force and some wonder was occasioned, that with such an active and efficient force he was not apprehended before he could effect an escape, but he has now been apprehended through the vigilance of Superintendent Green of Sittingbourne who, having heard a man such as Featherstone was lurking about in his district under suspicious circumstances gave the information to Superintendent Radley of Rochester Police. He made further enquiries and found that Featherstone was in the marshes near Graveney, to which place the two superintendents repaired. After some enquiries they found he had left but succeeded in tracing him to Whitstable, Herne Bay and onwards to Canterbury where he was apprehended by Superintendent Radley. Sergeant Andrews had found him in a beer shop, recognizing him from a description he had seen but although Featherstone denied it was him Sergeant Andrews detained him until the arrival of Superintendent Radley. He was then taken to Rochester and appeared before the City Bench, but from the absence of a person to prove payment of the cheque he was remanded.

1861 26th March Maidstone Journal Serious charge against Superintendent Radley - Alderman Farrell brought the case up before the Watch Committee having read in a penny publication the following.' At a meeting of the Watch Committee at Rochester, the charge made against Superintendent Radley a few weeks since by Alderman Farrell was fully

investigated. The officer who was the innocent cause of all the misunderstanding attended the committee, and at once cleared the superintendent of the charge of receiving a bribe, it was a free gift to purchase a stick, the case being disposed of some days previously by the sergeant on duty at the time, the superintendent not being present.

Sergeant Borrie, who was the principal cause of this charge being brought against his superior officer was severely reprimanded by the Mayor, and the majority of the committee expressed their indignation at his conduct throughout the whole affair. The superintendent was at once exonerated from the charge, and the terrible denunciation that was to have overwhelmed him, has thus since ended in a bottle of smoke.' Alderman Farrell said he would not have noticed this if his name had not been introduced and he did not know who had supplied this false information because instead of exonerating Superintendent Radley, the watch committee had actually passed a resolution disapproving of his conduct and expressing an opinion that the two officers concerned had been very unjustly treated.

The Watch Committee had not considered it desirable to procced with the matter but they gave directions that under no circumstances, in future would any member of the police force be allowed to accept fees. Alderman Farrell felt he needed to bring this affair before the Watch Committee as it was understood that whatever took place in the committee should not go forth to the public and he did not know if a reporter was present at the meeting or someone else had supplied the falsehoods. The Mayor agreed that Alderman Farrell's observations regarding the proceedings were correct and Superintendent Radley had stated he knew nothing of the person who supplied the report. It was decided that the matter was to be left in the hands of the Watch Committee. These proceedings had come out of a charge brought before the Bench some weeks before against Superintendent Radley, in which it was alleged that he had received a bribe to liberate two young officers from the station house. It was admitted, after some time, that money had been paid and Alderman Farrrell wished to have the matter enquired into publicly but the donor of the gift had written to say that it was a misunderstanding as the money was a gift.

1863 26th August and 28th August - Police Gazette- Property Stolen from Rochester on the morning of 25th inst., an old-fashioned gold watch, capped and jewelled, compensation balance, gold dial, and engine turned back, also a gold Geneva watch, metal dome, gold dial and steel hands. Information to be given to J H Radley, Superintendent, Rochester, Kent.

Chatham had a bad reputation at this time which leading to the introduction of the Contagious Disease Acts, which amounted to government supervision of prostitution in garrison towns but many of the women hawked their trade in local pubs, so police retaliated by trying to have pub licences revoked. In 1864 Superintendent Radley tried to shut down seven pubs, the Lord Nelson in Chatham High Street, the Bear and Staff in Chatham Intra (the place where Chatham and Rochester merge), the Five Bells on St Margaret's Banks, the Flushing in Horsewash Lane and the Homeward Bound near Gas House Lane (both towards Rochester Bridge), the Duke of Gloucester in Strood and the Maidstone Arms in Crow Lane Rochester. The magistrates however refused his plea, so the vice continued.

1864 29th June Police Gazette – Stolen from the dwelling of Captain Savage, Frindsbury on 24th instant, six large table forks, six dessert ditto and six dessert spoons, all silver crest, a lion's paw out of a coronet. Information to be given to Mr Superintendent J H Radley, Rochester.

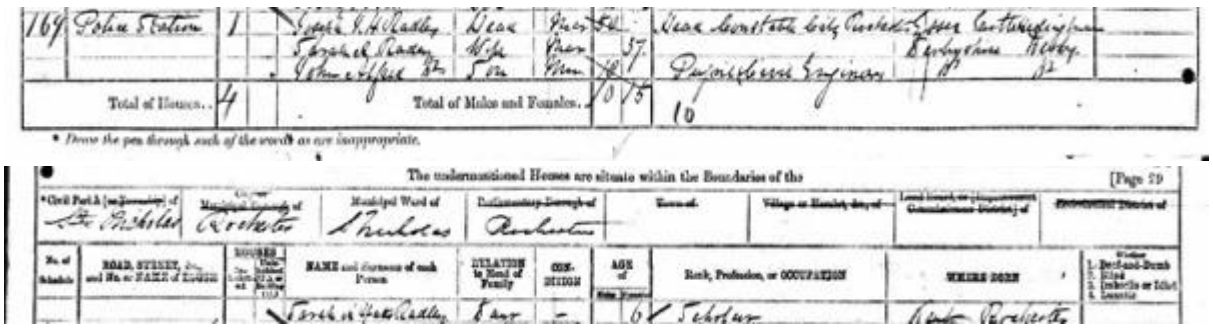
1865 10th April Sarah Ann Yates Radley the daughter of Joseph Josiah Hawkins Radley, superintendent of Police and Sarah Ann Radley of St Nicholas Rochester was baptized at St Nicholas Rochester

1867 Post Office Directory for Kent, Rochester: Police, Court Hall Lane, Joseph Hawkins Radley, Superintendent with 5 Sergeants and 22 men.

1867 25th March Maidstone Journal – The annual dinner of Rochester Police took place at the Rochester Bridge Tavern, under the presidency of Superintendent Radley.

1870 17th December Chatham News – Dinner to Rochester Police – The annual dinner given by the Mayor to the City of Rochester Police took place on Thursday week at Mr Cliff's, Rochester Bridge Tavern. Mr Superintendent Radley was the chairman. In his speech said that they had on all occasions received every assistance from the County Police, and that the good feeling that existed between the two forces could not be estimated too highly, and he hoped they would always act as if they were one body. Sergeant Parrett in proposing the health of Mr Radley, their Superintendent, stated that although he was rather hasty occasionally, there might be cause for it, he had a great responsibility on his shoulders. He had great respect of all the force and he proposed his health, with musical honours which was given heartily. Mr Radley replied he had many responsibilities on his shoulders that they were not aware of, and they were increasing every year. No policeman could do his duty unless it was done under strict discipline.

1871 Census shows the family living at the Police Station, St Nicholas, Rochester.



1871 Census 1 Frederick Place St Olave Old Jewry, London shows Rhoda Radley, married aged 53, a servant living with her mother and nieces.

1871 27th October Fanny Gertrude Radley the daughter of Joseph Josiah Hawkins Radley, superintendent of Police and Sarah Ann Radley of St Nicholas Rochester was baptised at St Margaret, Rochester Kent.

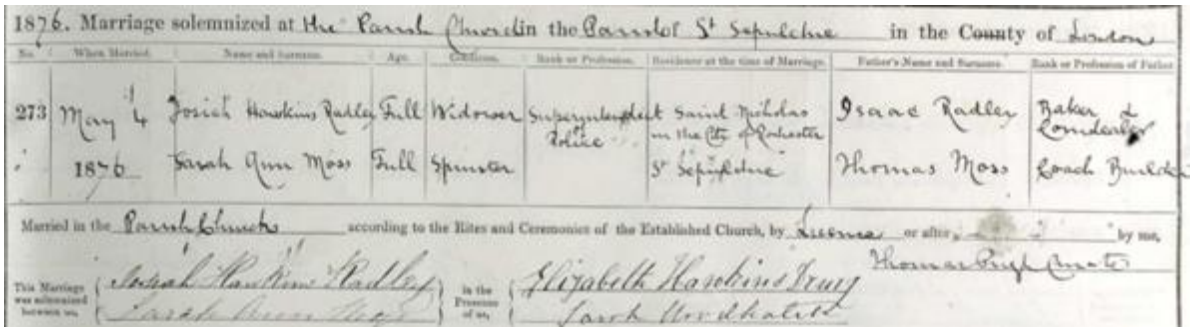
1873 4th October Gravesend Reporter - Superintendent Radley of Rochester Police was a pall bearer at the funeral of Mr Frederick White, superintendent of the Gravesend Borough Police.

1873 16th December Kentish Gazette – Canterbury Police Court – Robbery by boys. Albert Gambrill and Robert Binden were charged (the former on remand) with stealing a quantity of antique china and various other articles valued together at £6, the property of Mr Francis Blackburn of Dover Street Canterbury on or about the 25th. The prisoners had been apprehended by the Superintendent of Rochester City Police who communicated with Supt Davies and as a result Mr Blackburn was discovered as the owner of the property. The prisoners were sent for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.

1876 22nd January Chatham News- Cleaning of paths at Rochester. Superintendent Radley has issued a notice calling the attention of the citizens of Rochester to one of the bye laws by which residents are compelled to have paths cleaned in front of their houses before 10 o'clock in the morning, Sundays, excepted, in default of which they render themselves liable to a penalty of ten shillings. It is intended to enforce this bye law.

1876 17th April Rhoda Radley died aged 57years and on 23rd April she was buried at Christ Church Bexley Heath, Kent.

1876 4th May at St Sepulchre, Holborn, London Josiah Hawkins Radley married Sarah Ann Moss.



1876. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St Sepulchre in the County of London

No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
273	May 4 1876	Josiah Hawkins Radley	Full	Widower	Superintendent Police	Saint Nicholas in the City of Rochester	Isaac Radley	Baker & Confectioner
		Sarah Ann Moss	Full	Spinster		St Sepulchre	Thomas Moss	Coach Builder

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by Licence or after by me, Thomas Pugh Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us: Josiah Hawkins Radley, Sarah Ann Moss — in the Presence of us: Elizabeth Hawkins Drury, Jacob Wordhalter

Elizabeth Hawkins Drury, a witness at the marriage was a sister to Josiah Hawkins Radley, she was baptized at Castle Hedingham Essex on 14 March 1824, her parents were Isaac, a baker, and Mary Ann Radley of Castle Hedingham. On 22 March 1849 she married John Drury at Castle Hedingham Essex.

1876 6th May Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Journal. On the previous Sunday collections were made in the town for St Bartholomews hospital. The morning service in Rochester

Cathedral was attended by the Mayor and other dignitaries of the city who assembled at the Guildhall and walked in procession to the Cathedral, amongst those accompanying the procession was Mr J H Radley Superintendent of Police

1876 27th May Chatham and Gillingham Journal – The Rochester Police – A most interesting occurrence took place in the Guildhall yard on Friday. The whole of the force mustered, forming a square, to make a **presentation to Mrs Radley,** wife of Superintendent Radley, consisting of a silverplated tea pot, on which was artistically engraved the following inscription "Presented to Mrs Radley by the Rochester Police as a token of esteem for her untiring efforts to cater for their comfort at every opportunity. May 1876".

The tea pot, which was a very handsome one, was supplied by Messrs Hills, Rochester. Inspector Broadbridge, who made the presentation spoke in the highest terms of the great kindness displayed by Mrs Radley, for many years, when she had been called upon to cater for them during elections and more especially during the late winter months in preparing hot coffee for the men on night duty, all being done with a spirit of willingness that was unmistakable. Mrs Radley on receiving the present, returned her most sincere thanks for the kind feeling shown towards her by the force in making her such a handsome present. She could assure them that what she had done had been done with a good heart and without any hope of a reward, but having received one, she would forever prize it., not for its intrinsic value so much as for the good feeling which had prompted them to give it.

Superintendent Radley, who was also present, wished to thank the force for the great kindness shown to his wife, in fact he could not find the words to thank them as he should like to do. He remarked that the meeting that day pointed out one great and most essential thing, namely the spirit of unity existing in the force, showing that they were all puling one way, a state of things he trusted would continue. Mrs Radley then retired with her present, amidst applause.

1876 22nd June Administration of the **effects of Rhoda Radley** (wife of Josiah Hawkins Radley) late of Bexley Heath in the county of Kent who died 17th April 1876 at Bexley Heath was granted at the Principal Registry to the said Josiah Hawkins Radley of the City of Rochester, Superintendent of Police., (Effects under £200)

1876 23rd September Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Journal Police Inspection – Captain Willis, the Government inspector, on Saturday made his annual inspection of the Police Forces at Rochester and Chatham. He first visited Rochester and examined Supt Radley's force, which mustered in the Corn Exchange. The inspection also extended to the books etc of the force. Captain Willis then went on to Chatham.

1877 10th May Josiah Hawkins Radley aged 56 years of St Nicholas died at Rochester and was buried at St Nicholas Cemetery Rochester on 14th May. His headstone reads - In affectionate memory of Josiah Hawkins Radley who died 10th May 1877 aged 56 years, also of Sarah Robinson, mother-in-law of the above who died 10th July 18??* Aged 58 years, 'Blessed are

the dead which die in the Lord.' * The year of death is not legible on the headstone, Sarah died in 1866 and was buried at Rochester St NIcholas on 14th July 1866.

1877 22nd May, Inspector Broadbridge, who having acted as Superintendent during the long illness of Superintendent Radley was promoted to head of Rochester police, a post he held until his death in 1902

Sarah Ann Radley lived with her son John Alfred for the remainder of her life, she died in 1907 at the age of 73years.

Superintendent Charles Everett
Essex Constabulary 1840-1851
Surrey Constabulary January Appointment Number 8 1851-1858
Superintendent Godalming Borough Police
Superintendent Chichester
Died in the Workhouse a bankrupt

Born Braintree, age **29 in July 1851**, 5 feet 7 and half inches.

Appointed **9 January 1851** 1st Class Surrey Constabulary sworn **25 January 1851**

GO 56 August 1, 1851 First class constable to Inspector 23s per week.

GO 67 17 November 1851 Inspector acting Superintendent Farnham div.

GO 68 1 January 1852 Inspector Everett to Superintendent £85pa at Farnham

GO 96 May 25, 1853 Radley, Everett and Page suspended for being absent without leave on the day of the Derby.

GO 100 June 1, 1855 return to duty in charge Farnham Div.

GO 111 1 July 1854 having taken advantage of permission granted by Chief Constable to go to Ascot Races by making use of the county cart and horse upon that occasion and also by carrying two other persons severely reprimanded and fined £2 Additionally fined £1 for communicating to magistrate that the Chief Constable was going to punish him in contravention of the orders of the service.

October 1856 Dismissed from Surrey Constabulary

1858 Appointed Superintendent Godalming Borough salary £54 12s
Superintendent Chichester Police

Jenny Tuffs
November 2020

Charles Everett is of interest to the Surrey Constabulary because on resigning from Essex Police, he was one of the first members of the Surrey Constabulary, number 8 on the roll. He joined Surrey Constabulary on 9 January 1851 as a 1st class constable on 21 shillings a week, being sworn on the 25 January. The same month Everett was promoted inspector and a year

later in January 1852 appointed superintendent at Farnham being dismissed in October 1856 but later becoming head constable at Godalming and later Chichester.

The reason for his dismissal is not given but it was the "trademark" of the first Chief Constable Hastings to "fire from the hip" and this may have happened in this case. Hastings was a great "poster of men" across the county and after four years well dug in at Farnham it may be, he was to be moved, fell out with the chief constable and was sacked. Such a departure would have allowed him to be accepted as chief constable of Godalming and Chichester. It could be that the salary of £50 or so a year was too little for a man to lead the expected lifestyle of a superintendent. Money became an issue when after a few years at Chichester, Everett was bankrupted and had to resign. This was a similar fate to Alfred Hughes number 4 on the role and a superintendent in the Surrey Constabulary before becoming Chief Constable of Bath. He too became bankrupt and was forced to resign.

Charles Everett was born 24th July 1822 and was baptized 8th September 1822 at an independent church in Braintree Essex; his parents were William and Ann.

Charles Everett joined the Essex Police on 22nd April 1840 and was sworn in the same day as an "original class" constable. His collar number being 86. He was aged 20 years, height 5ft 7 ¾ inches, single, a baker from Braintree. He was made 2nd class constable on 6th October 1841 back to 3rd class on 18th May 1842 for making a false statement, again 2nd class on 31st August 1842 then 1st class on 30th November 1843.

On 1st August 1850 he became 3rd class again. He resigned on 1st January 1851. When he resigned it was noted his "sobriety and conduct generally good" (Constables joined as Original or 4th class and were promoted up to 1st class with time and good behaviour, many went up and down which was a punishment as pay was based on class).

	1	William Everett	20		Policeman	H	✓
		Ann Do		23		H	✓
		William Do		3		H	✓
		Ann Do		1 6 months		H	✓
		Robert Ridgewell	20		Policeman	H	
		Charles Everett	20		Do	H	
		John Archwlitz	15		Do		✓
		John Howlett	20		Do	H	

1841 Census Charles was a policeman in Essex

1841 21st August Chelmsford Chronicle: Charles Everett a Policeman stationed at Epping Essex was summoned at Braintree Petty Sessions on 19th August to show cause why he should not **maintain his father**, who was chargeable to the Parish of Braintree. It was stated by the Superintendent, that on going anywhere within five miles of his station he had to bear all his

own expenses, but when he went beyond that distance, he had a trifle allowed to him by the county. The Bench made an order upon him for 1s 6d a week.

On 31 January 1842 Charles Everett **married** Elizabeth Harrington at St Michael the Archangel Braintree. Later that year on the 27 November a daughter Hannah Everett was born at Braintree. Hannah was baptized 23 December 1842 at St Michael the Archangel, Braintree, the parish record showing her parents as Charles and Elizabeth Everett.

1844 29th November: **Shop lifting at Braintree:** Whilst on duty the suspicions of Policeman Charles Everett were aroused by the proceedings of a girl of loose character named Sarah Russell from the parish of Black Notley and he watched her through the window of a grocer and drapers' shop. Whilst the shopkeeper was engaged with customers the girl took a handkerchief from the display on the counter and concealed it under her arm. As she left the shop PC Everett met her at the door and took her back into the shop where in addition to the handkerchief, he had seen her take he found two others the shopkeeper identified as his property. A pair of woman's boots found on her were found after enquiries to have been stolen the same evening from the local pawnbroker shop. The girl was taken before the local magistrates and committed for trial at the sessions the next day where she pleaded guilty to both charges and was sentenced to eight months hard labour. This is only one of many offences which the vigilance of this officer had been the means of detecting.

1845 14th February Chelmsford Chronicle: Police Constable 86 Charles Everett solved the case of **counterfeit money** being offered in Braintree. After being given the description of one offender he "was quickly on the scent" seeing her meet up with others and go to The Three Tuns Inn, he watched them for a couple of evenings when they were joined by a local man who had not been in their company long when he tendered a counterfeit shilling. The next day along with two other constables they entered the room occupied by the parties. On entering and searching they found a box containing a quantity of composition used in the manufacturing of the coin. Under the mattress was a bag containing about 60 pieces of counterfeit half crowns, shillings and sixpences. The parties were arrested and next day committed for trial at the sessions by the magistrates. During the previous week PC Everett had made four other detections in Braintree and the vicinity, in which all parties were committed to sessions and for his tact and exertions in the capture of the coiners it was said he deserved great commendation.

1845 7th March Chelmsford Chronicle: Apprehension and **committal of thieves** at Braintree. Through the vigilance and perseverance of Police Constable 86, Charles Everett, a regular depot for the receipt of stolen property has been discovered in the town. From information he received Everett had reason to suspect two girls, aged about 11 and 12 years, the daughters of John Evans, a brush finisher, residing in a cottage, a warrant was obtained in his name and his house was searched. A great variety of stolen goods were found, mostly concealed in boxes. Many of the items have been identified by tradespeople of the town as having been stolen from their shops. The girls were later charged with the thefts and their father with receiving. They were examined before the magistrates and committed for trial. Eight or nine shops had been robbed by the little girls who were committed on four charges. The girls were Evan's children

by a former wife, the family only recently moved to Braintree from London, and from the ingenuity with which the children obtained the goods it would seem they had been trained in thieving.

1845 18th April Chelmsford Chronicle; **Robbery** at Braintree. On Thursday 10th Richard Letch, junior, a dealer of Great Baddow was apprehended by Police Constable Everett, charged with stealing a pocketbook containing a £10 note from William Brewer of Black Notley. The men were together at the Wheat Sheaf Inn the previous night when Brewer took out his pocketbook, and the prisoner had an opportunity of seeing the contents. A Short time later the prisoner followed Brewer out of the Inn but the robbery was not discovered until the following morning when information was given to PC Everett who traced the note to the possession of the prisoner. Letch stated he had got the note from Mr Kinch, a cattle dealer at Chelmsford the previous day for a cow and calf but Mr Kinch appeared before the magistrate and denied this. The prisoner appeared before the magistrates and was committed for trial at the next sessions. The pocketbook was found after the robbery in the yard of the inn. Richard Letch junior was later found guilty and sentenced to nine months imprisonment with hard labour.

1845 27th June Chelmsford Chronicle. PC Everett was a witness at the inquest of Mary Saunders of Braintree at the Old Gaol Chelmsford who **died soon after being brought to prison**. The case caused interest because it was alleged to be questionable whether she was at the time in a fit state to be removed by Police, and whether she had not become intoxicated whilst in their custody.

At the inquest Charles Everett, Police Constable 86 stated, I am stationed at Braintree and was sent for at quarter past eleven on Friday morning to take the prisoner into custody at the Cardinal's Cap, Bocking on a charge of felony. I found her in the back kitchen, she was sober but complained of her head, she walked to the station but complained of her head on the way. She looked as I have known her for the last five or six years in her features, but she was very dirty, her husband is a journeyman carpenter at Bocking and he maintained her. At the station I placed her in a cell and told her to knock if she wanted anything. I visited her several times when she still complained of headache. It was the duty of the superintendent to see she had food and drink. On Saturday I took her before Mr Savill and he committed her, she was sent to Chelmsford about half past one in the charge of Policeman Savill. I assisted her into the cart and she seemed very weak but in a fit state to be removed. No questions were raised at the examination as to her being in a fit state to be taken to Chelmsford.

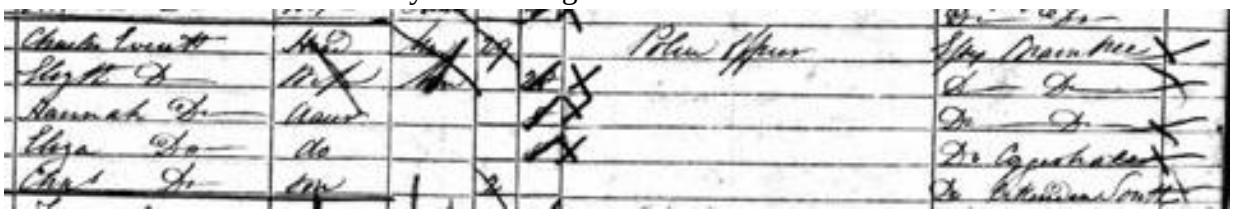
The inquest then heard from other about the state of the deceased health including the magistrate Mr Savill who said he hesitated about sending her to Chelmsford but people who knew her well said she would soon recover. She was sober when he saw her. But the surgeon's assistant at the prison stated he believed she was in a state of stupor and collapse through drink. The coroner then suggested an adjournment for a post-mortem to ascertain cause of death. During this time Captain McHardy, Chief of Police had enquiries made at all public houses on route to Chelmsford and found that PC Savill had not stopped at any one of them. PC Everett told the coroner that the deceased was searched by his wife at the station about half an hour

after she was taken into custody and nothing was found on her. Captain McHardy said after his enquiries he was satisfied that no policeman had acted contrary to his duties. The post-mortem found that the immediate cause of death was effusion of the brain, which might be consequent upon a long-standing disease of the brain which must have caused great suffering. It could not ascertain whether her removal to Chelmsford accelerated her death but it was hoped that the case would be a caution for the future and in similar circumstances a medical opinion be sought before a person is removed.

1845 7th December a second daughter Eliza Ann was **born** at Coggeshall, Essex. Eliza was baptised 16th January 1846 at St Michael the Archangel, Braintree, her parents shown as Charles and Elizabeth Everett. Two years later in 1849 a son Charles was born in South Ockenden Essex, and again Charles and Elizabeth Everett are recorded as parents.

On resigning from Essex Police, Charles Everett was one of the first members of the Surrey Constabulary, number 8 on the roll. He joined Surrey Constabulary on 9 January 1851 as a 1st class constable on 21 shillings a week, being sworn on the 25 January. The same month he was promoted inspector and a year later in January 1852 was appointed superintendent at Farnham being dismissed in October 1856 but becoming head constable at Godalming and later Chichester.

1851 Census Charles and family were living in Guildford



1853 24th December Morning Post. At Southwark Court, Thomas Sewell was brought before the court by Superintendent Everett of the Surrey Constabulary, Farnham charged with **stealing** 5s, the property of William Hickmott of Southwark. Hickmott had occasionally employed Sewell over the previous twelve months but a week previous he declined employing him any longer and notice was given to that effect, with directions to call at the counting house to settle their accounts. On Thursday Sewell called but was told to call again as Hickmott was not ready. Hickmott had previously suspected the honesty of Sewell so before he came to the office had marked 5s and put them on a shelf in the storeroom near the door. As Sewell left the premises, he was seen to put his hand towards the shelf and take the 5s. As he was in the office alone, he was unable to follow Sewell but the same afternoon at Farnham market he met him and gave him to the custody of Superintendent Everett.

That same evening when he returned to London Hickmott saw the five marked shillings in his brother's possession. Robert Hickmott said he had frequently lent Sewell money and on Thursday morning had met him and asked him to pay some of what he owed. He was paid the 5s which were put in his waistcoat pocket. He had not mentioned this to his brother earlier as he was on his way to Farnham market. Superintendent Everett stated he was stopped by

Hickmott at Farnham market and gave the prisoner into his custody for the robbery of 5s. Sewell appeared much surprised and laughed but made no particular remarks. He was immediately taken before a county magistrate who ordered him to be taken to Southwark. As the prisoner was seen to commit the robbery and the marked shillings were found on the loser's brother the conclusion was to commit Sewell for trial at the next Surrey Sessions and accepted bail from two respectable tradesmen.

1854 April 1st Reading Mercury. On 28th March at the Spring Assizes Kingston Frederick Mathews was indicted for highway **robbery with violence** in Farnham upon Caroline Payne the wife of a hop merchant and stealing a gold watch, £5 banknote, a gold chain and silver money of the value of £2 15s 9d. The injured person was walking in Farnham Park not far from the town on the 13 March when she received a tremendous blow with a stick rendering her unconscious and whilst in that condition was robbed. The prisoner was seen going towards the park not long before the robbery and Biddlecombe and Everett two members of the Surrey Constabulary, from other information received, suspected he was the guilty person, searched the suspect's room and found the stolen property. The man was arrested found guilty and sent to be transported for fifteen years.

1854 June Reported in several newspapers: Murder at Frensham: Dying Declaration: A meeting was held at the White Horse public house near Frensham Pond on Saturday (week) by the members of a club to make arrangements for the annual club dinner. Several of the members attended the meeting; amongst them were George Fullock, John Burrows and Henry Winter. After the meeting broke up the before-named persons proceeded in company with some others, home; but they had not proceeded very far before Fullock and Winter got into an altercation, which was succeeded by Fullock striking Winter and both of them commenced to fight. Winter is a man rather in years and not very well able to stand fighting with Fullock who, was only 23 years of age. This being the case Burrows interceded for Winter and prevented Fullock from knocking him about, when Fullock took his knife out of his pocket and with great force made a desperate lunge at Burrows and struck him in the stomach causing a wound of about two and a half inches in length and so great that the man's intestines protruded. Burrows lingered until Wednesday when he died after great suffering.

PC Francis Joy Surrey Constabulary stationed at Farnham went to the deceased and removed him to his sister's house. He went in search of Fullock and found him in a cow stall where he was searched and a knife found. The officer told Fullock he was charged with stabbing John Barrow but he made no reply. Charles Everett, Surrey Constabulary Farnham, having received information from the surgeon that the deceased was in a dying state he went to the deceased's house with N T Fuller esq., magistrate for Surrey. Mr Fuller told the deceased he was about to take his examination as he was in a dying state. Deceased said, "The doctor told me so." Mr Fuller said, "Now be very particular as you are in a dying state." A statement was made and written down by the superintendent. An inquest was held on Thursday and after a lengthened enquiry the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against George Fullock and Superintendent Everett was bound over to prosecute the case at Winchester assizes as the

deceased had been moved out of Surrey into Hants where he died. The spot where the poor man was stabbed was just on the borders of the two counties.

1854 5th November Emma Elizabeth daughter of Charles and Elizabeth Everett of Bear Lane Farnham was **baptized** at St Andrew Church Farnham, Charles occupation was Superintendent of Police.

1855 6th October West Surrey Times. Curious **recovery of stolen property**- So long ago as last 29th June a burglary was committed at the premises of Mr Charles Heath, butcher of York Town Frimley when a variety of items were stolen including two great coats. The active enquiries of Superintendent Everett and the police at his command could not find any clues to which the items might be traced and a reward of £10 was offered for information leading to the offenders. Nothing more came of this until the last week when Mr Heath thought he recognized one of his coats on a gypsy horse dealer named Leonard Cooper and he challenged him. Cooper said he bought the coat at Windsor in a public house kept by a man named Mitchell.

Mr Heath took the coat and handed it to Superintendent Everett who has since been making enquiries. At Windsor he found the story of the purchase confirmed by Mitchell but owing to some contradictory statements made by Cooper and his wife, he was detained in custody. He has been twice remanded and will be brought up again at the end of the week when further evidence will be given against him. The prisoner applied for bail but was refused.

1855 6th October West Surrey Times: Farnham: The Camp at Aldershot: The **presence of the military and militia** at Aldershot, four miles from the town, has had up to the present time a most beneficial effect upon the trade and commerce of the local shopkeepers. A great number of the officers and men visit the town every week and a good deal of money changes hands. The men generally conduct themselves well, they have to return to camp early evening, and it is only when on leave or after partaking of too much "John Barleycorn" they make themselves troublesome. Then the active guardian of the peace, Superintendent Everett quickly descends upon the delinquents "armed with the terror of the law" and reduces the malcontents to order.

1856 16th February West Surrey Times: Farnham: A narrow escape: A few days ago superintendent Everett of this town was proceeding with a horse and cart to Guildford, with two prisoners in custody, who had been committed to the County Police Station, when soon after passing Ash Street, the shafts of the cart suddenly broke off and threw the superintendent and his prisoners into the road, fortunately without injuring them more than the fright occasioned by the sudden shock. The horse being a spirited animal started off at a furious pace and was not stopped until it had run nearly two miles from where the accident occurred, without injury. There appears to be a great fatality among the superintendents in their coachman-ship ability, as it was only a few weeks since that Superintendent Burridge of Godalming was pitched out in a similar manner while having a female prisoner in his custody.

1856 11th October West Surrey Times – Farnham. **Removal of the superintendent** of Police. We regret to announce that Mr Everett, who has so ably filled the office of

superintendent of police for this town for upwards of five years, has been called upon by the chief constable of Surrey to resign his office, and at the same time by a strange anomaly has received from that gentleman a first-rate testimonial as to the ability with which Mr Everett has filled the office from which he now wishes to remove him. The magistrates have taken up the subject very warmly and the Lord Bishop of Winchester, with the clergy and tradesmen of the town have born ample testimony to the excellent way in which the police have been managed, and the peace of the neighbourhood preserved by the efforts of Mr Everett. Surely it is a powerful argument against the present system of centralization in the police, when one man is empowered by Act of Parliament to remove a superintendent from a district against the wishes of the magistrates and inhabitants of that district, and it is a most arbitrary act to do so without assigning any reason or allowing the superintendent any court of appeal.

1857 16th May West Surrey Times A meeting of the Watch Committee at Godalming was held for the purpose of **appointing a superintendent** of Police for the Borough. There were six applicants for the post including Mr Everett, the appointment will be required to be confirmed by the Town Council before it is made public but in the opinion of the Watch Committee no one candidate is so fitting for the office as Mr Everett whose appointment it is believed would give general satisfaction to the town.

1857 23rd May West Surrey Times. On Monday last Mr W T(sic) Everett, late superintendent of police at Farnham was sworn in as the Chief Constable of the **newly appointed** Police Force for the borough of Godalming.

The amalgamation of Godalming with the newly formed Surrey Constabulary in 1851 was not successful and they withdrew in 1857, mainly due to the lack of Police Cover provided particularly at night. Superintendent Charles Everett became superintendent of police with a constable to assist him. The salary of the superintendent was £54 12s and the constable 17s.

1857 10th October West Surrey Times: Godalming Bench: **Attempt murder of a police** officer: William Holt a strong burly fellow was brought up in charge of having attempted to shoot PC Phillips when in the discharge of his duty. PC Phillips was in the High Street, Godalming at about ten o'clock on Tuesday night. He met the prisoner with something bulky about his person, followed him to Bridge Street opposite his lodgings and asked him what he had got. The prisoner used some uncivil exclamation and refused to be searched and so was told he would have to go to the police station. He was about to be taken into custody when the prisoner drew a gun barrel from one pocket and a stock from another and was about to take aim when the witness rushed him, pushing him against a wall and called out for assistance. Mr Stafford and Mr Challen came up at that moment and seized the gun and the officer took the prisoner to the police station. Whilst the constable was holding the prisoner he called out to his wife to "bring out the long gun."

Mr Everett the Chief Constable stated that on examining the gun he found it charged and loaded with number 3 shot. The worthy mayor addressed the prisoner on the dangerous character of the offence and inflicted a fine of £5 or in default one month's imprisonment and as the money

was not forthcoming, he was committed. Shortly after the prisoner's removal to the station house Mr Greville's gamekeepers identified him as being the man whom they had seen on the previous Monday trespassing on land and who had threatened to lodge the contents of the gun in the stomach of the under-keeper.

1857 19th December West Surrey Times: Godalming: Mr Henry Newman Kettle, pork butcher, appeared to answer a charge of **wilfully obstructing the footpath**, by hanging out for sale in front of his shop carcasses of pigs in violation to the Act of Parliament. Mr Kettle admitted hanging the pigs out but considered there was no obstruction, therefore pleaded not guilty. Superintendent Everett said the pigs were hanging out about a foot over the pavement. He had applied for the summons against the defendant upon the information of another person but he declined to name them. As the Act of Parliament was explicit upon the point the magistrates were compelled to enforce it and the defendant was fined 15s, including costs.

1858 3rd April West Surrey Times: Godalming: On Friday evening or early Saturday morning last some persons broke into the pheasantry at Busbridge Hall and **stole seven hen and two cock pheasants**. The robbery was not discovered until late morning, when Superintendent Everett was immediately informed. He was quickly on the spot, and endeavoured to trace the offenders, but as yet has not done so. A reward being offered for the discovery of the thieves.

1858 4th September West Surrey Times- Godalming- **Resignation of the Chief Constable** of the Borough. It was announced last week that Mr Charles Everett, who for last eighteen months held the office of Chief Constable of the borough had been appointed to a similar office in the city of Chichester. Mr Everett's name appeared with some thirty other applications and in consequence of the excellence of his testimonials and his large experience of Police matters, the preference was given to him. On Tuesday last he received the appointment and the following day tendered his resignation. Since Mr Everett's residence amongst us we must give him every credit for his great vigilance and discretion in the discharge of his public duty. On no occasion, we believe has the town been better watched, or more efficiently protected than during the last twelve months, a proof of which is to be found in the almost total absence of crime and the perfect order which prevails on our streets. While regretting the loss of Mr Everett's services, we cannot but congratulate him on his new and superior appointment.

1858 16th September Brighton Gazette. The Watch Committee at Chichester reported there had been numerous applications for the **vacant office of Inspector of Police**, of which two were chosen as most eligible. The council appointing one of these, Mr Charles Everett of Godalming.
The City of Chichester Police Force at this time consisted of a superintendent, sergeant and five constables (See West Sussex Police force 1857- 1957 – Old Police Cells.)

1858 27th November Hampshire Telegraph. At Chichester Petty Sessions John Armstead was fined 20s and 6s costs, with one-month hard labour in default for an **assault** on Charles Everett, Superintendent of Police while in the execution of his duty.

1859 28th April Brighton Gazette: Sunday Trading. Look up the stocks: At Chichester City Bench on 25th April Edward Blyde, fruiterer of Southgate, who last week was summoned for a similar offence, but was not convicted in consequence of an informality was again charged with **selling an orange on a Sunday**. Charles Everett, son of the Superintendent state on the 17th he bought an orange and a pennyworth of pear drops, he found the door open and Blyde served him. Blyde said he had his shop open for light and only served some poor people with oranges to take to the Infirmary. He did not deny that he had sold the witness the orange. He was fined 5s and costs of 9s, in default a distress warrant was issued. If he did not produce this amount, he would be exposed to six hours in the stocks.

1859 20th January West Sussex Gazette. Felonious **attack on a married woman** and clever capture -Henry Jenman of Sidlesham was charged with assaulting Ann Wells with intent in the parish of Boxgrove on 13th January. The complainant stated she was returning from Chichester and passed the prisoner on the road near Maudling, he followed her and talked civilly for some time but when they reached the turning to Boxgrove he put his arms around her and took liberties. She told him she was married and he should not touch her but he said if any noise was made, he would take out a knife and murder her. He tried to force her into the hedge and whilst he was getting a knife from his pocket, she escaped telling him her brother-in-law lived nearby and if she saw a policeman, she would get him into custody. He left and she turned back to Strettington. Shortly after a vehicle approached, which turned out to be driven by Superintendent Everett of Chichester. She asked him if he had met a man with a bundle on his back, then told him what had happened. He requested her to get into his chaise and said he would take her to Halnaker public house. They overtook the man just as they were getting to Halnaker.

Superintendent Everett got out of his chaise and asked him what was in his bundle saying some sheep had been lost and he suspected some mutton was in the bundle. The prisoner the walked with Superintendent Everett to the public house at Halnaker and shortly after Ann Wells came in and identified him. He then took the prisoner to another room and after getting his name told him he was charged with assault with violence or intent. The prisoner said he did assault the woman but did not draw a knife. The prisoner was then taken to the lock up in Chichester. The prisoner again said he did not draw his knife; he had said he would but did not. After letting her go he went down the road near the public house when a gentleman asked what was in his bundle and if he had seen any partridge or sheepskin along the road. After telling the gentleman he had clean clothes in his bundle he was asked to accompany him to the public house. The prisoner was committed to the Quarter Sessions at Petworth and great credit was given to Superintendent Everett for the clever manner in which he effected the capture of the prisoner, as he first questioned him on an entirely different subject to induce the man to accompany him to a place where he could be taken into custody with less opportunity of resistance.

1859 2nd July At Chichester Quarter Sessions, Superintendent Charles Everett of the city police was a witness in the case of Jane Savage a servant to Captain Drury of Chichester who was accused of **stealing two pairs of stockings**, a pocket handkerchief and other items from

her employer. Superintendent Everett was called to the house by Mrs Drury, where he saw the prisoner who eventually produced some stockings and handkerchief marked E. A. Drury from her belongings and she was immediately taken into custody. Further information led to a search warrant being obtained for premises in Tower Street where pieces of drugget (coarse woollen, felted or woven fabric) were found concealed in a bedstead under the bedding. Francis Ide stated the prisoner was in the habit of coming to her house sometimes with the housemaid but she did not know who brought the drugget to her house. The prisoner had told her the housemaid had given it to her as it was too old to pack up and the housemaid verified this so the pieces were put between the bed and mattress to keep smooth. The housemaid stated she had not given the prisoner the drugget or told Francis Ide she had done so. After summing up the prisoner was found guilty and given eight months hard labour. The Recorder saying, he was sorry that the prisoner had lost the good character which it appeared she once bore having descended to vice and dishonesty.

1860 17th March Portsmouth Times. Charles Everett Superintendent of Chichester Police was one of several men who applied to become **Superintendent at Portsmouth**.

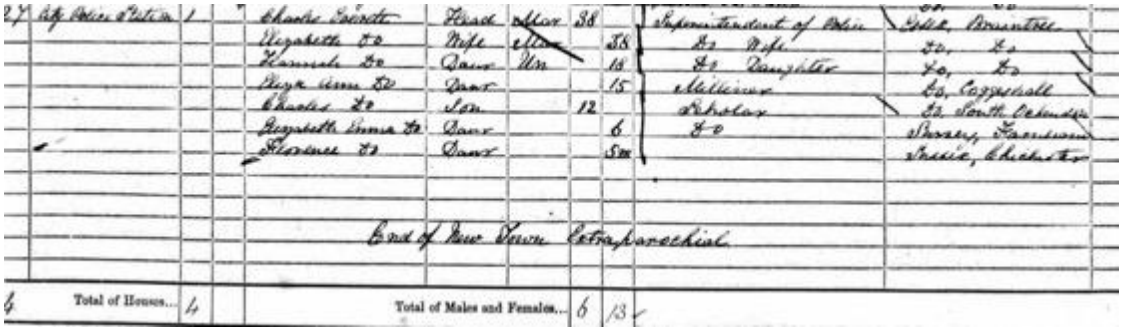
1860 25th October Brighton Gazette. Births: On 21st October, the wife of Mr Charles Everett, Chief Officer of Chichester Police, a daughter (Florence).

1860 1st December Hampshire Telegraph Daniel Rabally, a private in 59th Regiment stationed at Chichester and Bridget Conlon Rabally his wife, were charged with **stealing** four £5 notes and two valuable scarf pins from the quarters of Captain Grant. Information was given to the active superintendent, Charles Everett, who was not long in discovering that a soldier, on the morning after the robbery, had gone to four different grocer's shops and each time offered a £5 note in payment for some tea and tobacco. He then went to the barracks and had little difficulty finding the man who he took into custody. He next visited the lodgings of the female prisoner where he found several packets of tea and on telling her she must go with him to the police station to be searched, she produced from her bosom two small bundles containing £18 10s in gold and silver, which she said had been given her by her husband. The male prisoner confessed his guilt and attempted to exonerate his wife. The bench however committed them both for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.

1861 4th May Hampshire Telegraph. At Chichester City Bench Captain Reid of Northgate appeared and stated to the magistrates that he wished, with their permission to **present publicly to Mr Charles Everett**, superintendent of Police the sum of 5s in consideration of his having with great care and vigilance traced and restored to its owner, a purse containing a considerable sum of money, and to publicly thank him for the service he rendered. The superintendent stared that Mr Henry Dendy, the Captain's brother-in-law, on Saturday came from London by train using his purse at London Bridge Station and not missing it until he got to Chichester. Information was immediately given to the police and Mr Everett promptly contacted various railway officers on the line. It was not long before he heard that the purse had been picked up in a railway carriage by someone from Faversham, Kent. The loser went to Faversham where the purse was restored to him, with a deficiency of about 50s, which no doubt fell out in the

carriage, as the purse was open when found. The finder declined the reward offered for recovery

1861 Census for Chichester shows Charles Everett and family living at the City Police Station.



1862 19th April Hampshire Telegraph: Magistrates Office 10th April William Adams was charged with **creating a disturbance** in the parish of St Pancras on the previous day and unlawfully resisting Superintendent Everett while in the discharge of his duty. The defendant had gone to the premises which his father had lived until the last few days but was now occupied by Mr G Holt. He was requested to leave but refused to do so. Mr Charles Everett, superintendent of police was sent for and for some time he reasoned with the defendant and tried to get him to leave quietly. He claimed some of the baker's tools in the bakehouse were his and was allowed to take them and he was then removed with little difficulty. Later in the day he returned and Mr Everett being sent for, found him sitting in the parlour. The prisoner was quite drunk and refused to leave when requested to do so. After much resistance he was removed. The prisoner stated he did not know he had used any violence. He was fined 17s including costs and the magistrates highly praised the Superintendent for the calmness and prudence which he had shown in his conduct to the prisoner.

1862 5th June Brighton Gazette: Chichester: On Monday the **training of the Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia** came to an end and the men were sent to their homes. Superintendent Everett wrote to the Mayor of Chichester that he had great pleasure in reporting their general good conduct. During the previous five weeks nearly 600 men had been billeted in the city and during that time not a single charge had been made against them nor any one of them brought to the Police Station. The town having presented its usual peaceful and orderly appearance which was mainly due to the very kind cooperation of the officers and the very creditable way the men distinguished themselves

1865 2nd December Leeds Times. A few mornings ago, the superintendent of Chichester Police (Mr Everett) was disturbed by a **violent ringing at his bell, it seems the bell is at the head** of his bed and the constables have orders that if anything serious occurs, to ring it violently, in order that this energetic officer may be up and doing. Violently the bell rung, and quickly the superintendent bounded out of his comfortable bed, and inquired "What's a matter?" The constable who had rung the bell exclaimed in tones of alarm, "Pray be quick, I

Have a poor woman here who has suffered much, and I feel alarmed." The fact was that the poor woman was about to become a mother and not a moment was to be lost.

As quick as possible an order was given by Mr Everett for the admission of the suffering woman to the workhouse. Intimation was also sent to the governor, a bed prepared, and nurses provided. As well as he could the constable assisted the woman on her journey. At the workhouse the woman was firstly undressed and found concealed around her body a sack, two or three guano bags, a great coat, a bag of nails, a padlock and other minor items. Stripped of these the woman assumed a more becoming form and was handed back to the police.

From the marks on the sack, it was found the property had been stolen in Arundel, where the woman had slept the night before. The woman was transferred to Arundel and remains in the cells of that town awaiting examination by the magistrates. The affair has created some merriment in the city and one or two wags have asked superintendent Everett when the christening is likely to come off. The constable who first took compassion on the woman has scarcely yet recovered from the shock and will give no information as to the way which he was imposed upon in the first instance.

1866 4th April Hampshire Telegraph. A Petty Case: Edmund Farndell, a farmer was charged with **assaulting Charles Everett**, superintendent of police in the parish of St Peter the Lees. The hearing lasted two hours. Mr Everett who was taking a newly appointed constable to be examined by the force, passed Farndell in the street and moved off the pavement as he did so Farndell said something he could not hear, using at the same time a disgusting action. Mr Everett looked round and Farndell said "You are always watching me." The superintendent denied this but Farndell repeated it adding some foul words. Mr Everett said, "I am paid to watch thieves and suspicious characters" and walked on followed by Farndell who pushed into Mr Freedlands yard after them using offensive language and demanding the whole time what was meant by calling him such things.

Mr Everett turned to put him out of the yard, when Farndell squared up and struck him on the hand, but not a severe blow. In self-defence he struck Farndell on the head with a walking stick. Farndell then left the yard. Superintendent Everett said he looked upon Farndell as a suspicious character but not a thief. He denied hitting him in the face saying he got the mark from a young man who he had assaulted the previous night, who had then knocked him down. A witness stated he heard the superintendent say, "Will you get out you vagabond" and then strike Farndell. He did not see Farndell strike him first. Farndell also denied striking the superintendent saying he was annoyed with what had been said.

The magistrates dismissed the case adding that they considered the superintendent had slightly exceeded his duty in applying such terms to the defendant and cautioned Farndell to keep sober in future and be more careful as to the way he conducted himself.

1867 5th June Hampshire Telegraph Chichester Bench gave permission for Superintendent Everett to attend Romsey Petty Sessions in the case of a **farmer who had moved 40 cattle**

from Fareham to Chichester market either without a certificate or by the use of one which had the fictitious signature of a resident magistrate. The cattle were seized by Mr Everett, and it appears they will be slaughtered, and other proceedings taken against the farmer and dealer by the bench. The Mayor gave orders to Mr Everett not to let the animals go and urged him to be very vigilant in every case as the market had been reopened only after great trouble and every precaution must be taken or it would be closed again (NB This was at the time of cattle plague)

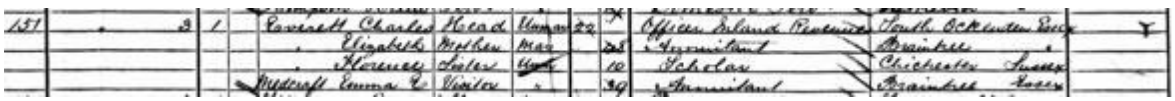
1867 31st October Brighton Gazette: **Bankrupts:** Charles Everett, Chichester, Police officer, November 6th at Chichester.

1867 12th November Chichester Express. The Watch Committee at Chichester reported that on 1st November Charles **Everett, the Superintendent of Police, was dismissed** from the force in consequence of his misconduct and the committee recommended that he be dismissed from all offices held under his control. The committee gave instructions to the town clerk to advertise for a new superintendent and obtain possession of the station house and all books, papers, documents and things belonging to the different offices held by Everett.

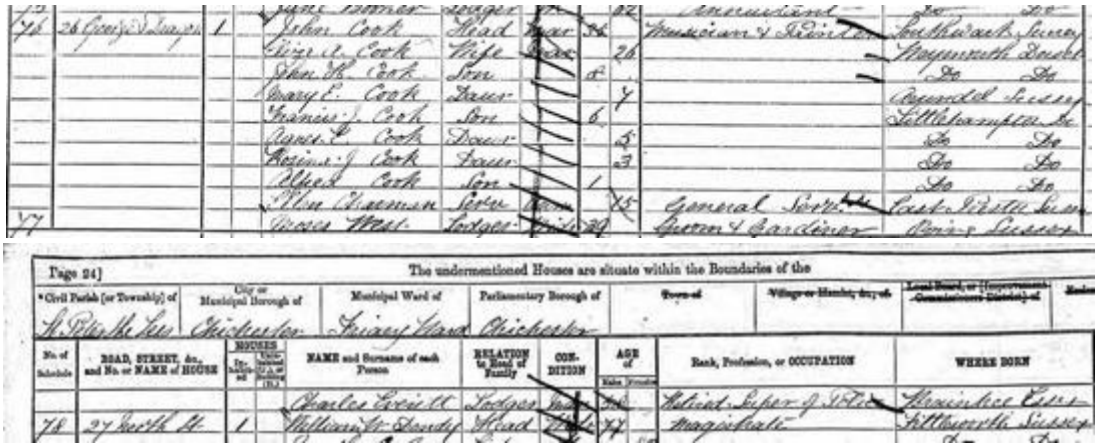
The Mayor suspended him from all offices held by him under the control of the council. The committee then recommended he be awarded the sum of 20 guineas for extra services in connection with the cattle plague. The mayor then mentioned that since the Watch Committee framed the report Mr Everett had sent in his resignation as superintendent and all other offices he held, he had given up his house and all articles belonging to his offices. He begged his resignation be accepted so it would not appear he had been dismissed. His letter of resignation was read to the committee who decided although they would be sorry to say anything harsh respecting the late superintendent, they had a reason for taking the steps they did and it looked a little "Irish" to accept his resignation after they had dismissed him, he no doubt wanting to appear before the public in a better face than he deserved. The resignation was not accepted.

1867 24th December Chichester Express: In the matter of Charles Everett of the City of Chichester, Police Officer, **adjudged bankrupt** on 23rd October 1867.An order of discharge will be delivered to the bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless an appeal be duly entered against the judgement of the Court and notice thereof be given to the Courts. Dated 13th December 1867.

1871 Census 3 Alma Villas Wandsworth lists Charles Everett, head, age 22 years unmarried with his mother Elizabeth Everett, aged 48 years, married and his sister Florence Everett aged 10 years. By December1871 when he marries at Wigginton Oxfordshire Charles is of Hitchin.



1871 Census Charles Everett was a lodger with the Cook family in Chichester, he is described as married and retired Superintendent of Police



Page 24]	The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the								
* Civil Parish [or Township] of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town of	Village or Hamlet, &c., of	Local Board, or [Improvement Commissioners District] of			
St Peter the Less	Chichester	Priory Ward	Chichester						

No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES		NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CONDITION	AGE of	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN
		Inhabited	Uninhabited (or B. or C. if in Building)				Males / Females		
				Charles Everett	Lodger	Mar	77	Retired Paper Stainer	Shoreditch Essex
78	27 North St	1		William St Sandy	Head	Mar	77	Magistrate	Tillingworth Sussex

1871 11th October Charles Everett died at Chichester. His will was proven at Chichester on 22nd January 1842 by Elizabeth Everett of Hitchin in the County of Hertford, the widow and sole executrix. Effects under £300.

1871 14th October Charles Everett was buried at St Bartholomew Chichester, a note reading "from the workhouse"

Elizabeth Everett died January/March quarter 1891 London City registration district

PC Peter Thomas Collett
Metropolitan Police warrant number 19440
Surrey Constabulary Appointment Number 23
13 January 1851- 5 February 1856
Berkshire Constabulary died 1858 aged 38

1821 born St Erme, Cornwall

1842 20th June Metropolitan Police for six and a half years

1851 January 13 Joined Surrey Constabulary sworn **25 January 1851, a**ge 29,5 feet 8 ½ inches

GO 106 December 4, 1852 Drunkenness 3 previous reports fined 5s.

1853 August 4, disreputable conduct in a public house reprimanded and removed to another division at his own expense.

GO 110 25 April 1854 third to second class.

1856 February 5: Permitted to resign for frequenting public houses on duty four cases of discipline "Tolerably good on the whole"

1891: Mrs Dinah Groves (remarried widow of Peter) in 1891 is a pauper at Kingston Workhouse. **1896 10 March** Dinah Groves, age 87 years from Kingston Union Workhouse was buried at All Saints Church Kingston.

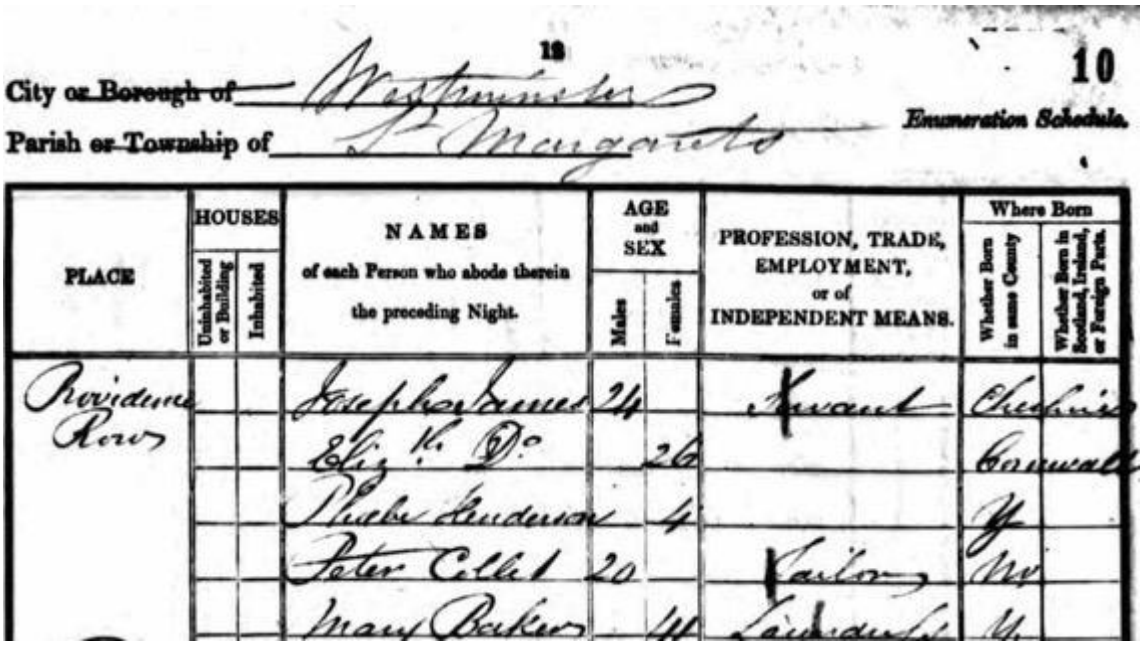
From Jenifer Tuffs Former Surrey Constabulary November 2020

1851 13 January PC Peter Thomas Collett transferred to Surrey Constabulary from Metropolitan Police serving 1851-1856 before transferring to Berkshire where he dies in 1858.

Peter Thomas Collett was born in 1821 at St Erme Cornwall, the first child of John, a labourer and Jenifer (nee Thomas) Collet whose residence was Merther, Cornwall. He was baptised 10th June 1821 at Merther by George Moore, the curate.

1841 Census Providence Row Westminster London Peter Collet aged 20 years, born out of county, a tailor (?) is living with Joseph and Elizabeth James and Pheobe Henderson who is 4 years old (Phoebe has no parent living with her)

Pheobe Henderson was born 26th May 1837 and baptised 18th June 1837 at St Anne's Church Soho; she was the illegitimate child of Dinah Henderson.



City or Borough of Westminster 10

Parish or Township of St Margarets Enumeration Schedule.

PLACE	HOUSES Uninhabited or Building	HOUSES Inhabited	NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX Males	AGE and SEX Females	PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born: Whether Born in same County	Where Born: Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts
Providence Row			Joseph James	24		Servant	Cheshire	
			Eliz. K. Do		26		Cornwall	
			Phebe Anderson		4		Ye	
			Peter Collet	20		Tailor	Do	
			Mary Baker		40	Laundress	Do	

1842 20th June, Peter Collett **joined the Metropolitan Police**, warrant number 19440.

1842 4th August Peter Thomas Collett, a Policeman **marries** Dinah Henderson (a spinster) at St Pancras Parish Church. Dinah is probably the mother of Phebe born out of wedlock. His father is John Collett a labourer.

1843 July/September quarter Peter Thomas Collett was **born** Poplar registration district.

1844 October/December quarter William Collett was **born** in Poplar, Middlesex.

1845 12th May Proceedings at The Old Bailey Peter Thomas Collett, Police Constable K283 was a witness in the case of Thomas Thompson who was charged with **breaking and entering**. PC Collett had been stopped by a person chasing the robber and pursued him, eventually apprehending him for stealing some clothing. The prisoner not making any remark. He was then taken to the Police Station. Thompson was found guilty and transported for ten years.

1846 July/September quarter 3 James Collett was **born** in Poplar Middlesex

1847 30th July Morning Advertiser. At Thames Law Court William Watson aged 13 years was charged with s**tealing** £34 in gold. PC 283K Peter Collet said his attention was drawn to the boy by a cabinet maker who said he was in possession of a large sum of money, which he was spending rather freely. He found the boy in a coffee house, in Limehouse-Hole where he had slept the previous night. In a bag which the boy took from his pocket was 34 sovereigns and 8s in silver. He also had a new suit of clothes and some other articles he had recently purchased.

When asked to account for himself the boy said he came from Newbury, Berkshire and that his uncle who had abandoned him had left him the money. He had come to London in the hope of gaining employment. PC Collett handed the magistrates a small pocketbook, which he had taken from the boy. Inside was written "William Watson,13 years, my father died thro a consumption the 24th of January 1847, my mother died 18th of May 1847, thro worry, and was buried in the Newberry churchyard in one grave and left me without a friend in the wide world to protegee me. My mother left £43 to printers (apprentice) me. My father was a farmer in Newberry in Berks" On being questioned the boy said everything he had written was true. His mother had made over everything to his uncle before her death, on condition he supported him and apprenticed him to a trade. Ten days after her death, the uncle sold everything off and took him to Newbury where they lodged for a few days. One morning he woke to find his uncle gone and on his pillow a bag containing £43 in gold, which his uncle had left. After hearing nothing of his uncle for a few days he made his way to London and had been living at different coffee houses for the last six weeks. It was decided the boy must be detained the House of Correction until inquiries were made about him.

The Morning Advertiser of 31st July continued the story. The boy had not been in custody long before he admitted to the court gaoler that the story was pure invention. He was in fact Alfred Dorey whose father was a barge builder from Southwark. He said he made the pocketbook entries to convince any police officer who might question him, he had in fact gone to obtain cash for a cheque for £92 for his master Mr Daley. When he left the banking house, he was accosted by a boy who persuaded him to send the £50 to his master and decamp with the sovereigns and spend them. He acted on this and headed for where the boy took a few sovereigns from him and left, he had not seen him since. Mr Daley identified the boy and said he had been in the service of a neighbour for some time and had maintained a good character. The boy was committed for trial and the magistrate said he was sorry to find such a young boy exhibiting so much duplicity and cunning.

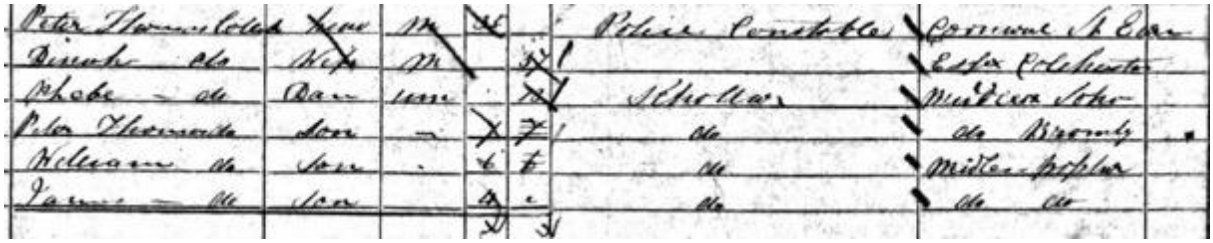
1848 18th September Proceedings at The Old Bailey, Daniel Fitzgerald, Dennis Fitzgerald, Michael Naigle and William Downing were charged with unlawfully **assaulting** George Osborn, Peter Collett and James Hams, constables in the execution of their duty. PC Osborn was on duty at 1230 at night in Poplar when he found a number of persons making noise, he spoke to them and all but five or six went away. Daniel Fitzgerald and Michael Naigle were among them. As PC Osborn was going away Dennis Fitzgerald came out of his house asking why his brother had been told to go home. He was told to go home or he would be arrested, then he **punched PC Osborn** who sprang his rattle. Sgt Hams and PC Collett attended and Fitzgerald was eventually taken to the station.

In evidence PC K283 Peter Thomas Collett stated he received information and went to assist Osborn in Green Lane where he saw five people who he asked to go away, they all went indoors then came out again. Dennis Fitzgerald came out alone at first but his brother joined him almost immediately and stones, brickbats and earthenware were thrown. Dennis stuck Osborn and he tried to strike Dennis but Dennis struck first hitting him twice on the head, knocking him over

but he recovered although he was unable to get out his staff. Downing and Naigle also struck him but after a struggle he managed to take Downing to the Police station. He was bruised and had a big swelling on his head, was knocked over on his back and tore his cape. All prisoners were found guilty.

1851 13th January Peter Thomas Collett joined Surrey Constabulary being sworn in on 25th January as one of the originals. He was described as aged 29 years, 5ft 8 and a half tall, born Cornwall and had been a policeman in the Metropolitan Police for six and a half years.

1851 Census the family are living in Headley, Surrey including Phoebe who has taken the surname Collett.



1852 January/March quarter Jane Collett was born Reigate registration district. Jane was baptised 22nd February 1852 at St Mary the Virgin Headley, her parents were Peter Thomas, a policeman and Dinah whose residence was Headley.

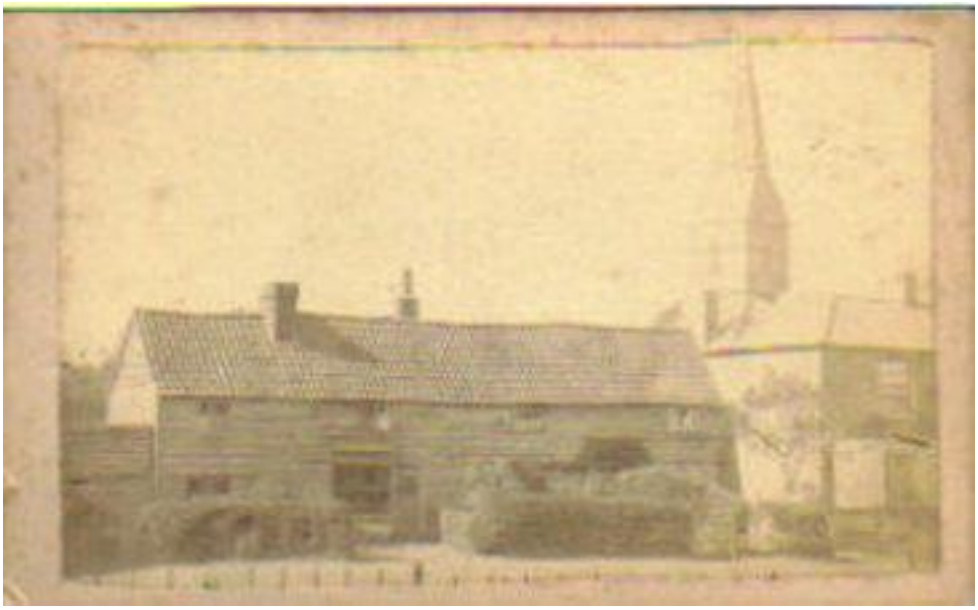
1853 17th December Windsor and Eton Express: Esher: Fire-: About one o'clock on Tuesday morning as police Constable Collett, of the Surrey Constabulary was on his rounds in the village, he saw **flames rise from the farmyard** of Mr Woodhatch, farmer and butcher. The officer, with assistance he procured, succeeded in releasing a quantity of fat beasts and pigs confined on the premises, which had they remained a few minutes longer would have been destroyed. The estimated damage is between £300 and £400 and it would have been much greater had it not been for the assistance of the parish engine and one from Claremont. From enquiries made by Mr Biddlecombe it appears this was an act of incendiary. We are sorry to say this is the second incendiary fire in Surrey in the last ten days. [77]

The Esher Murders

One of, if not the worst, murders in the history of the Surrey Constabulary occurred in June 1854 in a small house in Esher. The lead investigator was Superintendent Biddlecombe an experienced detective and thief take, number 1 in the appointment book. He was to deal with a number of child murders. The impact on all those involved must have been very significant. The horror is unimaginable.

[77] 1853 December 17: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette

Six Children Murdered: In 1854, George Brough announced to Mary Ann that he was leaving her because he suspected she had been cheating on him. He also said he intended to take their children away from her, setting into motion a series of terrible events.



The Brough's Cottage in Esher

1854 June reported in newspapers worldwide. On 10th June Henry Woolgar spotted a bloody pillow hanging from the window of a cottage in Esher. After ringing the doorbell, her found a ladder and climbed up to look through the window. He saw a woman gasping with her throat cut, her hands and face covered in blood and her hair hanging about her face. She was making a whistling noise apparently from the wound and blood was spurting from her throat. He then went through the rooms of the house and saw something more horrifying, finding body after body. The woman Mary Ann Brough had killed six of her children, each being slaughtered with their father's razor. Her husband, George had said he was leaving her as he suspected she had been cheating on him and also that he intended to take the children.

Mary Ann slit the children's throats and tried to take her own life but she survived and was charged with six counts of murder. She confessed killing the children before attempting suicide.

At the trial it was stated Collett was the first Constable to whom Mary Ann Brough made a statement as he was in attendance before the coroner. Peter Thomas Collet was examined and said – The prisoner was partly under my charge from the 10th to 29th June. I searched the house and found a bunch of keys and an empty razor case. On Sunday morning 11th the prisoner said the clock would not want winding-up until 10 o'clock as she had wound it up at 10 o'clock the night before. On 13th she said she wished her daughter Mary had come and told me to take a box from under the bed, it contained plate and jewellery. On top of the box was a piece of paper, and on seeing it the prisoner said, "I though not of doing it until Friday night." The paper reading, "All for my daughter Mary (her eldest child who was not killed). Her father is only seeking to get money from them as never injured him or done him any harm, so help me God.

Signed Mary Ann Brough. On the same day the prisoner stated this would not have happened but for her daughter and Fred Foster and a letter they had copied three or four years ago. The prisoner also stated Brough wanted to be parted from her.

PC Collett wrote down what Mrs Brough said to him and produced the paper at court. She said if the doctor had come it would not have happened, she wished she had taken his advice and it would have been better for her. During the night she repeatedly night asked for her children, called out "Billy" and asked who was crying. This was 11th June and everything was quiet.

The following confession was made by the murderess, to Mr. Biddlecombe, chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary: "On Friday last, I was bad all day; I wanted to see Mr. Izod and waited all day. I wanted him to give me some medicine. In the evening I walked about, and afterwards put the children to bed, and wanted to go to sleep in a chair. About nine o'clock, Georgy (meaning Georgiana) kept calling me to bed. I came up to bed, and they kept calling me to bring them some barley water, and they kept calling me till nearly 12 o'clock. I had one candle lit on the chair. I went and got another, but could not see, there was something like a cloud, and I thought I would go down and get a knife and cut my throat but could not see. I groped about in master's room for a razor. I could not find one; at last, I found his keys, and then found his razor. I went up to Georgy and cut her first; I did not look at her. I then came to Carry and cut her. Then to Harry, he said, 'don't mother.' I said, 'I must' and did cut him. Then I went to Bill. He was fast asleep. I turned him over. He never awoke, and I served him the same. I nearly tumbled into his room. The two children here, Harriet and George were awake. They made no resistance at all. I then lay down myself." The miserable woman signed this statement. J. Harkness, Printer, 121, Church Street, Preston.[78]

After further witnesses appeared a verdict of not guilty on the grounds of insanity was returned and she died in Bethlehem Asylum London on 18th March 1861.

Mary Ann survived and was charged with six counts of murder. She confessed, telling investigators that she had used a razor on each child, one at a time. One child had protested and another had struggled, but she killed them all before attempting suicide. Mary Ann Brough was found not guilty by reason of insanity[79]

[78] Source: Curiosities of Street Literature, London, Reeves and Turner, 196, Strand, 1871.
[79] The Encyclopaedia of Mass Murder

This is PC Carpenter in 1857 so the PC Collet's uniform would be identical

1856 5 February Peter Thomas Collett was **permitted to resign** from Surrey Constabulary for frequenting public houses whilst on duty, having four cases of discipline. His conduct being tolerably good on the whole. This is the first mention of alcohol related discipline. One is drawn to the conclusion that there may be an element of drowning sorrows following the Brough murder.

In 1856 Peter Thomas Collet of Merther, Cornwall **joined Berkshire Constabulary,** he was aged 35years and his residence was Farnham Surrey (Berkshire Quarter Sessions Records).

1856 17 May Berkshire Chronicle at the Berkshire County Bench George Moss, landlord of the Merry Maidens Whitley was charged with keeping his **house open after the hours** allowed by law. On the evening of Saturday 3rd May, Peter Thomas Collett of the Berks Constabulary went into the defendant's house at 25 minutes past 11 o'clock and saw several men sitting with beer before them. The defendant said he knew he had done wrong and was quite willing to pay whatever fine the bench might inflict on him. He was fined £1 7s including costs, which was paid.

Thomas dies aged 38

1856 6th August Peter Thomas Collett died aged 38 years of Whitley Street, Reading was buried at London Road Cemetery, Reading.

1856 16th November, Phoebe reverts to her birth surname for her marriage: Phoebe Henderson marries George Bidwell at St Giles Church Reading, the witnesses were John Groves and Dinah Collett. Both Phoebe and George gave their address as 31 Whitley Street, Reading.

On 12 August 1858 Dinah Collet aged 42 years, a widow of Small's Court Reading married John Groves aged 62 years, a widower and shoemaker of Small's Court Reading at St Giles Church Reading by banns.

1861 Census Dinah is calling herself Dinah Collett, a widow, needlewoman, aged 44years, born Colchester and is a lodger to Sarah Seaton in Finsbury London. Her daughter Jane now aged 9 years is living in Frensham Surrey with Phoebe Bidwell and her family.

1871 Dina (sic) Groves is living at Park House Bridge Street Walton on Thames with Eliza Wallis, a servant who was left in charge of the house. Dina Groves is shown as married.

1881 29th January Surrey Advertiser – An old woman defrauds the Guardians: Dinah Groves was summoned at Kinston Town Hall for having on 21st January, wilfully made a false statement to the Guardians of Kingston Union for the purpose of obtaining relief. Her name was called but there was no response, the clerk to the Guardians saying he did not think she would appear as she had not attended the previous Wednesday and the case was adjourned. The mayor asked where she was and PC Brill who served the summons said she lived in Frederick Place, Canbury Fields so he was asked to go and bring her to court.

Shortly after Dinah Groves, whose age was given as 66 years appeared and stated she did not attend the previous week due to illness but was much better now. The Clerk to the Guardians stated the defendant had wilfully and repeatedly misled the Guardians as to her real position in life. On three occasions during the past twelve months the chairman of the Board had had her in the Board Room and interrogated her as to her means, she persistently stated she had none whatever, and when asked about an annuity under her late mistress's will she said it was absolutely false. In consequence of enquiries an extract was read from the will of Lady Barnard to say the defendant was entitled to an annuity of £13 which she regularly received. She was receiving this annuity when she was an inmate of the workhouse, but immediately she heard proceedings were to be taken discharged herself. She last received relief on 29th December and the summons was issued on 17th January.

After consultation the magistrates decided proceedings could not be taken under the Act quoted so the summons was amended as having on 21st December obtained relief under false pretences. The defendant had since August 1879 been receiving either indoor or outdoor relief. On each occasion she said she had no private means. Then on 21st December she told the chairman she had an annuity some years previous, but it had ceased. The master's clerk of the workhouse stated she was admitted on 1st June 1880 and discharged on 29th December.

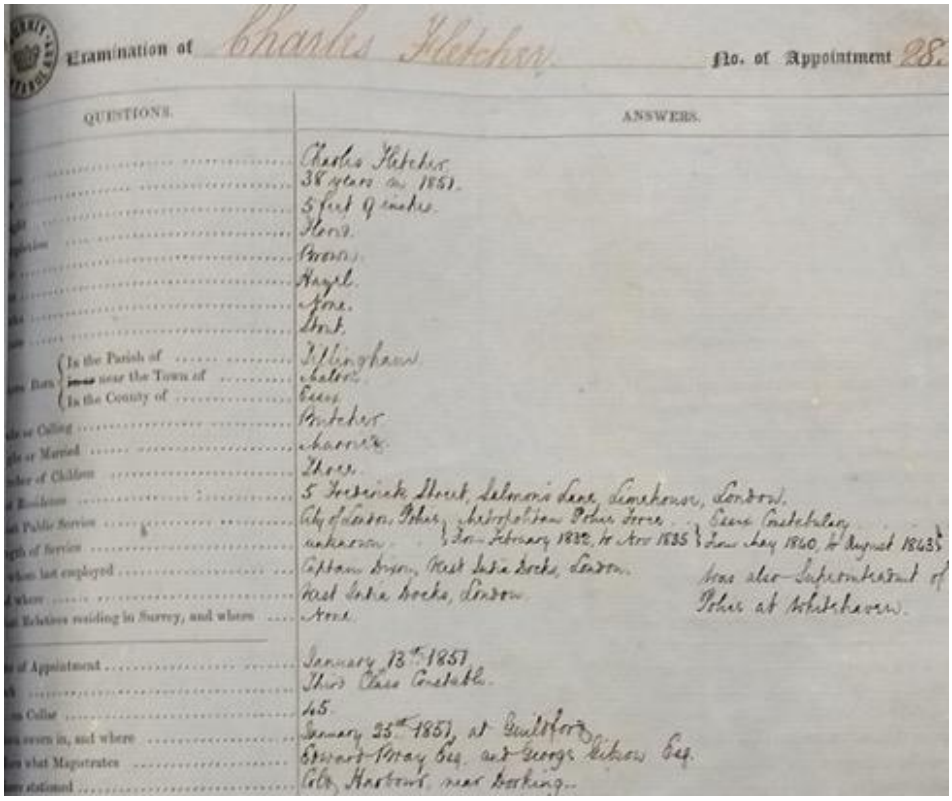
An employee of Coutts Bank, The Strand proved an annuity of £12 a year had been paid regularly to Dinah Henderson, now Collett. The defendant was originally in the service of Lady Barnard as Dinah Henderson, she subsequently married Collett and then Groves. A receipt dated 1st August 1880 was produced, it was signed Dinah Collet, late Henderson.

The defendant now crying, said more than three years ago she had an attack of bronchitis and had since been unable to earn a living. She admitted receiving £12 a year but said she did not consider the need to tell the Guardians of this "little protection". The clerk to the Guardians said that had she been honest about the annuity, that it was not sufficient for her to live, the Guardians would have supplemented it. The bench stated the law could not punish her for lying but for the serious offence of obtaining relief by false pretences. They decided not to send her for trial but due to her age, fined her £1 or 14 days in prison for default. She was told that if her annuity was not sufficient, the Guardians would try and help her. The defendant asked to be allowed until the 1st of the month to pay and this was allowed.

1881 Census Dinah Groves, a widow, needle woman, aged 65 years born Colchester is living at 1 Hope Avenue, Lower Ham Road., Kinston on Thames with her youngest daughter Jane Hill, who is also a widow and her children.

1891 Census Dinah Groves is **a pauper** at Kingston Workhouse. 1896 10 March, Dinah Groves, age given as 87 years from Kingston Union Workhouse, was buried at All Saints Church Kingston. (Age more 75)

Charles Stuttle Fletcher Born 1809
City of London Police, Metropolitan Police PC G28
Essex Police PC58 then Inspector and Superintendent Whitehaven
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 28 Inspector, Superintendent Dismissed 17 May 1855
Re-joined Metropolitan Police as PC



Examination of Charles Fletcher No. of Appointment 28

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
	Charles Fletcher.
	38 years in 1851.
	5 feet 9 inches.
	Hazel.
	Brown.
	Royal.
	Fair.
	Oval.
Is the Parish of / near the Town of / Is the County of	Billingshurst / Sussex / Essex
	Painter
	Married.
	Three.
	5 Frederick Street, Salmon's Lane, Limehouse, London.
	City of London Police, Metropolitan Police Force, Essex Constabulary
	unknown, 3rd February 1832, to Nov 1835; 2nd May 1840, to August 1843
	Captain Brain, West India Docks, London.
	West India Docks, London.
	None.
	January 13th 1851
	Third Class Constable.
	45
	January 23rd 1851, at Guildford
	Edward Mayo Esq. and George Likon Esq.
	Coln Harbour, near Barking.

was also Superintendent of Police at Whitehaven.

Date.	From.	To.
May 1/51	Third Class Constable	Second Class Constable
Jan 1/52	Second Class Constable	First Class Constable
Feb 1/52	First Class Constable	Inspector at 23/ per week,
May 1/52	Inspector at 23/ per week	Superintendent at £85 per annum.

Date.	From.	
Jan 12/52	Coln Harbour	Godalming.

Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punishment.
May 17/55	Insolence and Drunk	Dismissed

Appointment Register[80]

Jennifer Tuffs March 2021

[80] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

Charles Fletcher at one time a member of the Surrey Constabulary, had a curious career as a police officer. A man of ambition which is evidenced by his movement between police forces as he climbed to the rank of a superintendent in a rural constabulary. As was almost the norm he suffered family tragedies during his service which ended in Surrey when he was charged with desertion and fraud in 1855. What all that was about is lost to time. It is clear that he is yet another superintendent whose career ends in ignominy, forcing him to leave the county and probably join the Metropolitan Police, again, as a constable.

1809 10th April, Charles Stuttle Fletcher was **baptized** at Tillingham, St Nicholas, Essex his parents were Thomas and Susanna Fletcher.

1829 23rd April, At St Martins in the Field, Westminster, Charles Fletcher **married** Hannah Channer, a widow nee Harrad. The banns at St Mary's Lambeth on 12 October 1828 stated the banns were forbidden by the father of Fletcher.

1830 9th June, Ann Stuttle Fletcher was baptized at St Margaret's, Westminster. She was born on 3rd April. Her parents were Charles Stuttle Fletcher and Hannah Fletcher.

Serving in the Metropolitan Police in 1836 29th February he is reported in the proceedings at The Old Bailey. William Bowes was indicted for **stealing** on 5th February, two glass bottles value 4d and one pint of soda water value 4d, the goods of John Carter Lucas, and James Coulson was indicted for feloniously receiving the same, well knowing it to be stolen, against the statute. One witness was Charles Stuttle Fletcher who stated, 'I am an officer. I found the soda water bottle produced, at Coulson's shop. There was no soda water in it. I had no conversation with him about it. He keeps a marine store shop in Peter's Lane, Cross Crow Street. It was with other soda water bottles." Bowes was found guilty and Coulson not guilty.

1836 29th February. Proceedings at The Old Bailey. William Bowes indicted for s**tealing** on 9th February 9lbs sugar, value 10s the goods of John Carter Lucas, his master and James Coulson for feloniously receiving the same well knowing it to be stolen. Charles Stuttle Fletcher, police constable G8, was a witness who stated "On 9th February, I was in Coulson's shop after Bowes was taken into custody. I got there about ten minutes before nine o'clock-Coulson was in the back parlour when I got there, at breakfast, but Bowes was in custody at the station house. I went in the back parlour, and in a cupboard, there found seven bottles and two pieces of sugar. There was no paper or mark on them; there was no appearance of sugar being sold there." He was cross examined and asked what was the weight of the sugar to which he replied he did not weigh it but it did not weigh nine pounds. Both men were found guilty.

It would appear that Charles left the Metropolitan Police and was working in Ramsgate, Kent as a police officer. This is certain when one considers the name of his wife.
1836 29th October Dover Telegraph - Sandwich Sessions - Edward Taylor and John Jones were found guilty of **assaulting and beating** Charles Fletcher, a constable of Ramsgate in the execution of his duty and sentenced each to a month's imprisonment.

1837 17th September Susannah and Elizabeth Hannah Fletcher were b**aptized** at St George's Ramsgate Kent, their parents were Charles Stuttle Fletcher, a constable, and Hannah Fletcher of Ramsgate.

1839 5th October Dover Telegraph: Dover Quarter Sessions: James Dansey, aged 20, and Joseph Edwards aged 16 charged with **stealing** at Margate, a watch, the property of Ann Dobson. The prosecutor, a servant of Mr J Rammell, stated that she saw the watch safe in the kitchen about five o'clock in the evening of the first day of Margate Races. Edward Legg, waiter at Carpenter's Arms Ramsgate, saw both prisoners enter the house about eight o' clock the same evening and offer a watch similar to the one produced for sale.

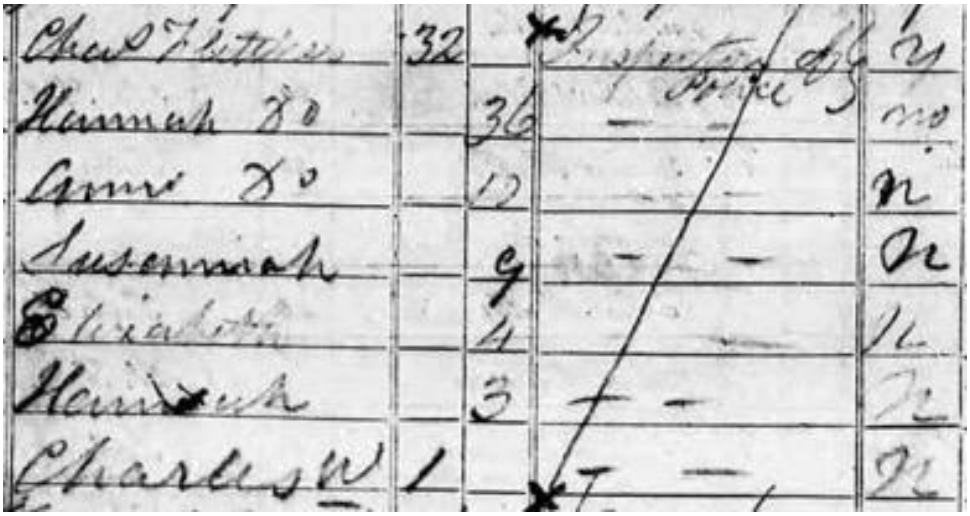
Charles Fletcher, policeman, saw the prisoners on Ramsgate Pier and asked them if they had not offered a watch for sale the previous evening. Dansey said he had sold the watch for a sovereign. The witness searched the prisoners and found the watch, produced, on the prisoner Edwards, who in his defence, stated he bought the watch at Margate races, off a thimble-rig man, and meeting Dansey on the road to Ramsgate, in want of food, he took him to the Carpenter's Arms, and gave him something to eat, and paid for his bed. Both men found guilty with six months' imprisonment and hard labour.

1840 14th May Charles Fletcher aged 30 years, born Tilling, married with four children **joined Essex Police** and was given collar number 58. His previous occupation was Constable. On 5th November 1840 he was promoted to Inspector with his conduct described as good.

1840 April/June quarter William Charles Fletcher is **born** Thanet District Kent, his mother's maiden name being Harrad.

1840 30th October Chelmsford Chronicle: Essex Quarter Sessions: Samuel Juniper, 29, labourer, of **assaulting** Charles Fletcher and Alexander Warnock at Great Coggeshall-6month's hard labour. William Newman 21, groom of assaulting Charles Fletcher; one-month hard labour.

1841 Census, Great Coggeshall, Essex lists Chas Fletcher, **Inspector of Police** with his wife Hannah and five children (William Charles being listed as Charles W.)



1841 9th July Chelmsford Chronicle: **House Breaking** at Feering. Abraham Potter junior, 24, gardener and William Clarke,27, labourer were indicted for breaking into the house of John Naylor, a labouring man, aged 74, at Feering and stealing 40 sovereigns, 20 half sovereigns, 11 guineas and 4 half guineas. John Naylor stated he left is cottage secure on the 8th of June and the money was in a canvas bag in the middle drawer of a chest of drawers in the bedroom. The drawer was not locked but the chamber door was fastened. On returning with his son to the cottage about five thirty on the evening of the 9th, they found a nail had been put in the front door, and after unlocking it went inside to find utter confusion, the bedroom door was broken open and the money gone, everything being strewn about. The thieves having got in by pulling out the back window, the then made a hole in the kitchen wall, by which they opened the kitchen door, by withdrawing the bolt. The canvas bag produced was identified as well as a bent guinea and half guinea. The eleven guineas and four half guineas being all that has been recovered.

Several witnesses proved Potter and Clarke were nearby on the day of the robbery and that Potter had bought a watch of J Knight and changed gold at several places in Coggeshall. Charles Fletcher, inspector of police stated about ten o'clock on the above evening, I apprehended Clarke and found 9s in silver on him. I told him I was taking him into custody for the robbery at Naylor's, when he said he did not commit it, and that a half sovereign he had just changed at the bar was given to him by Potter. The same evening, I took Potter into custody at his lodgings and found 2 and half pence in coper in his pocket. I told him why I was apprehending him and asked if that was all the money he had. He replied, "How could I have more money when I have no work."

On searching I found between the bed and mattress where he had been sleeping, a watch. The following day I went to a field occupied by Potter's father and on a bank close to the hovel found a canvas purse containing eleven guineas and four half guineas, the same number as Naylor had lost. J knight stated the watch was same as he had sold Potter. Potter then stated the money was his own and Clarke said Potter had lent him a half sovereign and some silver as well as giving him the sovereign to pay for the beer. It was decided the case of Clarke was not

strong enough to go before the jury so he was acquitted but Potter was found guilty and a prior conviction proved against him, he was sentenced to 14 years transportation.

1841 3rd December Chelmsford Chronicle at Essex Adjourned Sessions: John Lawrence, 21, engineer was charged with an **assault** on Charles Stuttle Fletcher, a police officer, in the execution of his duty, at Great Coggeshall. The prisoner received a good character from his employer. He was sentenced to six months imprisonment and hard labour.

1842 April/ June quarter Witham registration District Essex Emily Sarah Ann Fletcher was **born.** Her mother's maiden name was Harrod.

1843 22 August Charles Fletcher **resigned** from Essex Police.

1844 January/March quarter Westminster Registration District, Victoria Fletcher was **born**, her mother's maiden surname being listed as Channer.

It would appear that Charles transferred to Whitehaven as superintendent given the death message of his father below.

1844 6th July Carlisle Patriot: Jacob Barwise was charged with an assault on Charles Fletcher and John Douglas, police officers at Whitehaven. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to six weeks imprisonment with hard labour. Jacob Barwise was involved in the previous case as he had been arrested for being drunk, some of his friends were determined to rescue him and ended up being tried for assault on the police officers involved.

1844 14th September: Carlisle Journal: **Death**: At Tillingham, Essex on 6th inst., Mr Thomas Fletcher, veterinary surgeon, aged 68years, father of Mr Charles Fletcher, superintendent of police at Whitehaven.

1844 19th October: Carlisle Journal: Cockermouth Michaelmas Sessions- John Cope, aged 23 years who neither reads or writes was charged with **stealing** two shirts the property of William Irving and Anthony Jacques of Hensingham.

Mr Moreland conducted the prosecution. Sarah Holmes. On 18TH Jun, I washed three shirts and hung them out to dry at Snebro'. I noticed the marks on them, and I missed them on the 19th

Jane Farrel - I live in Whitehaven. I saw the prisoner at the bar on the19th and he asked me if I would buy a shirt.it was betwixt 12 and 2 o'clock. I bought it and gave him 10d for it. On the next day I gave it to Mr Fletcher.

Charles Fletcher- I am superintendent of police at Whitehaven, and produce a shirt given to me by the last witness. The shirt being so identified

George Cowen – I am a constable at Workington and on 2nd July took he prisoner to Carlisle. I took this shirt (it was identified).

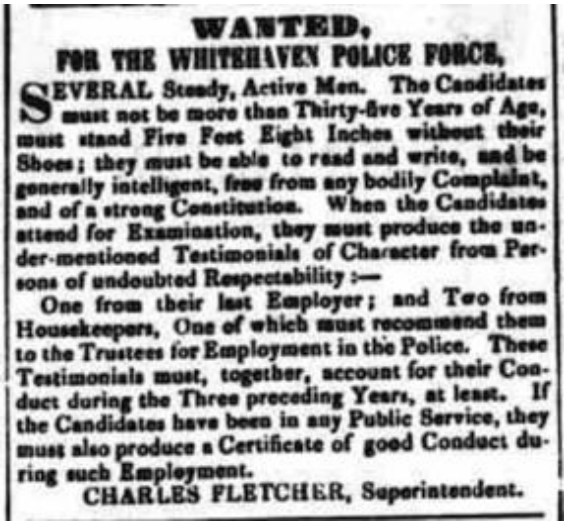
This was the case for the prosecution and after summing up the jury returned a verdict of guilty. There being a previous conviction the prisoner was sentenced to be transported for seven years.

1845 1st March: Carlisle Journal: Cumberland Assizes: William Graham aged 24, reads and writes well was indicted for **stealing a grey mare**, the property of John Dover of Croathwaite. John Dover stated he was a farmer at Burning and on 11th January he was at Keswick market with a cart and grey mare. He came home at five o'clock and put it in the stable but the next morning found it gone. On the Monday morning he saw it in the custody of the police at Whitehaven about twenty miles away.

The prisoner was formerly a servant to his father having left about Martinmas. Joseph Bell, a farmer from the parish of St Bees stated the prisoner was in his service but left on 31st December then on 13th January he came back with a grey mare which he said would suit him. When asked to whom it belonged, he was told 'our folks.' When asked if they wanted to sell her he was told they would either swap or sell, saying his brother-in-law had offered £18 which he had refused. Joseph Bell said he would try it the next morning as he had a grey horse with which to swap but the police came that evening and took Graham and the horse away.

Charles Fletcher, superintendent of Police at Whitehaven stated he had received information about a grey mare and in consequence went to Mr Bell's to find the prisoner sitting in the kitchen. He was charged with stealing the grey mare but denied it. Mr Bell confirmed the prisoner had brought the mare. The prisoner then said, 'I did steal the mare, I don't know what made me do so, I think the devil must have sent me.' The prisoner and mare were taken into custody and the mare was identified by Mr Dover the next day. After summing up the evidence the jury returned a verdict of guilty and Graham was sentenced to be transported for ten years.

1845 15th April Cumberland Pacquet – the following advertisement appeared.



WANTED,

FOR THE WHITEHAVEN POLICE FORCE,

SEVERAL Steady, Active Men. The Candidates must not be more than Thirty-five Years of Age, must stand Five Feet Eight Inches without their Shoes; they must be able to read and write, and be generally intelligent, free from any bodily Complaint, and of a strong Constitution. When the Candidates attend for Examination, they must produce the under-mentioned Testimonials of Character from Persons of undoubted Respectability :—

One from their last Employer; and Two from Housekeepers, One of which must recommend them to the Trustees for Employment in the Police. These Testimonials must, together, account for their Conduct during the Three preceding Years, at least. If the Candidates have been in any Public Service, they must also produce a Certificate of good Conduct during such Employment.

CHARLES FLETCHER, Superintendent.

1845 4th July Carlisle Patriot: Mary Doyle aged 30 years was found guilty of **stealing** an earthenware pot on 19th June and a wood lid to the value of fourpence the property of George Channell on 20th June. The items were stolen from a wash house. The prisoner was seen coming out of Mr Channell's wash house about eight or nine o 'clock on 19th June with the bulky shape of a pot lid under her clothes. On 27th June Charles Fletcher, superintendent of police, in consequence of information received went to the prisoner's cellar where he found an earthenware pan, he then charged her with stealing it. She said she wanted it to wash in and had been told by Miss Bousefield, the neighbour of the Cannell's, she might take a pot from the wash house. A set pot lid was also found in the house but not taken away as her mother, with whom she lives said it had been in the house several years. Sarah Ann Bousefield stated she had never given the prisoner authority at any time to take anything from the wash house. After summing up the jury took about five minutes to return a verdict of guilty.

1845 23rd September: Cumberland Pacquet, and Ware's Whitehaven Advertiser: Whitehaven Local Intelligence. A few days ago, Messrs Fisher and Steward of this town, presented, Mr Fletcher, the superintendent of our Police Establishment, with a very handsome silver snuff box, as a **reward for the exertions made** by him on a late occasion to rescue their property from impending destruction. The motives of the givers and the merits of the receiver are set forth in the following inscription which is elegantly engraved on the box 'Presented by Fisher and Steward, to Mr Charles Fletcher, Superintendent of the Whitehaven Police, for his prompt exertions in assisting to save their property, endangered by the late fire at Messrs McGowan's cooperage on the morning of 29th January 1845'.

Another silver box was presented by the same gentlemen to Mr Sergeant Bell. Bearing a similar inscription. Having witnessed the prompt and efficient exertions Mr Fletcher and Mr Bell, on the occasion alluded to, we feel justified in stating that their exertions were most laudable, and that they are both worthy of the handsome acknowledgements which Messrs Fisher and Steward have so gratefully bestowed on them.

1845 29th November. Carlisle Journal: **Death** at Whitehaven, Emily Sarah Ann, daughter of Mr Charles Fletcher, superintendent of police aged three and a half years.

1846 October/December Quarter Liverpool registration district Charles Fletcher **marries** Sarah Ann McCree. Sarah Ann was born in 1827 in Cumberland and in 1841 Census **aged 14** (see below probably should read 19) years was living with her parents in Michael Street, Whitehaven.

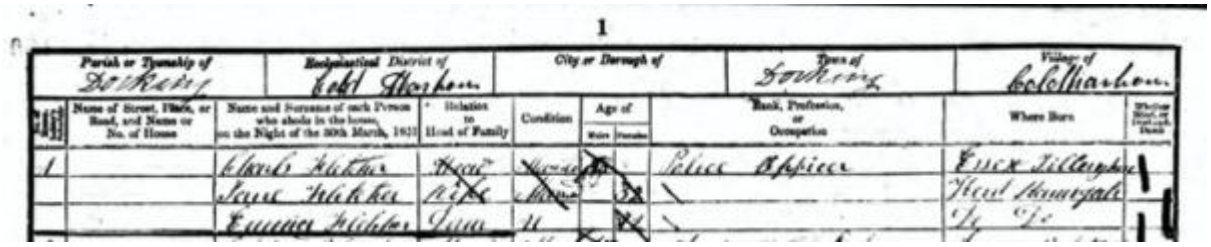
By May 1849 Whitehaven has a **new superintendent** of Police, Mr Clarke

1849 20th July Carlisle Journal: **Deaths:** In Michael Street last week, in child bed, Mrs. Sarah Ann Fletcher, wife of Mr. Charles Fletcher, in the 22nd year of her age. In the July/September quarter at Whitehaven Charles Stottle (sic) was born and died in July/August 1849, his mother's maiden name was McCree.

1851 13th January Charles Fletcher joins Surrey Constabulary as a constable aged 38 from Whitehaven where he was superintendent but would have had few men. Career progression was not possible. Joining a newly formed constabulary offered opportunities for advancement. Just over a year after joining Surrey he was appointed inspector on 23 shillings a week.

1851 25th February. Sussex Advertiser: Guildford Petty Sessions: Reuben Smith was charged with having on 15th February, kept open his **beer shop at Compton, after the hour** of 10 o'clock, contrary to the statute in that case made and provided. Charles Fletcher, police constable 45, of the County Constabulary, deposed that on Saturday night he went to the beer house of the defendant, at Compton. He met three men coming out of the house, and he asked the defendant if he knew he was doing wrong by allowing persons to be there drinking at that time of night. Defendant said, yes, he knew it was wrong, but he did not know it was so late, and he hoped he (the witness) would not hurt him. He entered the house and saw a number of persons there- about a dozen, it was very nearly eleven o' clock, the parties were smoking. The defendant said he knew it was over time, but it was only a quarter past ten o'clock when the policeman entered the house, and he would swear that he drew no beer after ten o'clock. He was fined 14s including costs and cautioned.

1851 Census Cold Harbour, Dorking lists Charles Fletcher, married, Police Officer born Tillingham, Essex living with Jane Fletcher, wife age 32 (no trace found of wedding) and daughter Emma Fletcher aged 12 years they were both born Ramsgate. Emma Fletcher's birth was registered Thanet District July/September quarter 1838 but no maiden name was given for her mother. (Nothing further has been found on Jane or Emma)



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Parish or Township of	Ecclesiastical District of	City or Borough of	Town of	Village of
Dorking	Cold Harbour		Dorking	Cold Harbour

No. of Schedule	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Males	Age of Females	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, or Deaf-and-Dumb
1		Charles Fletcher	Head	Married		38	Police Officer	Essex Tillingham	
		Jane Fletcher	Wife	Married		32		Kent Ramsgate	
		Emma Fletcher	Dau	U		12		" "	

GO 32 April 28, 1851 promoted to the Second Class GO 68 1 Jan 1852 promoted to **first class**

GO 70 1852 12th January Charles Fletcher was moved as **acting inspector** to Godalming from Dorking, he was to take temporary charge of the division together with Inspector Wilson and to live at the Station House.

GO 72 1852 2nd February he was promoted from acting inspector to i**nspector** at a salary of 23s.

1852 20th July Sussex Advertiser: County Court Godalming: Extraordinary Case: Hounsom v J Cumming, esq. This was a case of **alleged assault and the damages** were laid at 40s. The plaintiff is a broom maker, and the defendant one of the magistrates of the county, the circumstances are of an extraordinary character, and created the most intense interest, the court

being crowded to excess. The plaintiff was called and said on 12th April he was leading a horse through High Street, Haslemere, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, on the horse's back was an effigy. The defendant came up to him with Mr Fletcher, superintendent of police, and Mr Wilson, an inspector. The defendant said, "Take that villain into custody." Wilson took hold of him by the arm and asked him what he had got there to which he replied, his own image(laughter).

Fletcher told him to stop. Mr Cumming then said, "Take the scoundrel and villain into custody." The effigy was pulled off the horse into the gutter, and afterwards removed to the yard of the King's Arms public house. When cross examined, he said he made the effigy for a likeness of the Pope of Rome (again laughter), he never made it for Mr Hesse, he had never seen the Pope but he was told to make an effigy as near the one which was burnt for his Holiness. The effigy was produced in court, it was upwards of 6 feet high and had things on it to represent clergyman's robes, on the head a large wig and on the breast a paper on which was written 'Beware of the man who wanted to rob the poor man of his right'

Mr Robinson for the defendant stated he was very fond of Mr Hesse which caused renewed laughter and loud stomping of feet and His Honour said if a similar interruption took place, he would have the court cleared. Mr Robinson continued by saying that last year there had been an image burnt at Haslemere which was intended to represent the Pope and this year they wished to have one at Chiddingfold. Mr Hunt of the Crown Inn had given orders to make the effigy to be as near the Pope as possible.

Thomas Onslow, a stable keeper stated that on the day in question he saw the plaintiff leading a horse on which was an effigy, he was going about 3 or 4 miles an hour in the middle of the road, there was not any disturbance. He saw Mr Cumming, Fletcher and Wilson and then the figure thrown off the horse, and Wilson taking hold of the plaintiff. Cross examined he said he had seen an effigy very year and he did not take this one as a likeness for Mr Hesse.

Mr Thomas Teasdale, builder said he saw the plaintiff with the figure and saw Cumming take the paper off of it. He said they frequently rode people at Haslemere – they rode him two years ago, but the figure was not like him. Mr Robinson stated that the defendant was one of the magistrates of the county and in that capacity, he had a right to put a stop to the nuisance. Mr Hesse was the rector of Haslemere who it appeared had given some offence to the lower orders with the reference to some school. They "rode" him as it was called last year and there was not the slightest doubt the effigy in court was also intended to be him., it being a good rough likeness. The matter had such an effect on Mrs Hesse, who was ill for some time, that she has since died, it was altogether a most disgraceful transaction to parade this likeness of the clergyman through the street and in his opinion, it was the duty of the defendant as a magistrate to put a stop to it. The defendant stated he was close to Mr Hesse's house on the day in question, with Fletcher and Wilson and he had not the slightest hesitation in saying the effigy was intended for that gentleman.

His Honour said there could be no doubt the effigy was meant for a likeness of Rev Hesse and one very strong fact to prove this was the paper found on the breast. He did not think the defendant would have done his duty if he had not stopped the effigy as nothing was more dangerous than to hold up a clergyman to ridicule in such a manner, at a time when there were such strong feelings on religious opinion. The conduct of the party was highly improper and he gave judgement for the defendant, costs were asked for but his Honour said he had no power to grant them. The plaintiff asked for the clothes on the effigy, but His Honour declined to make an order in the matter. He, however ordered the plaintiff to pay 5s to Wilson for his expenses. The effigy was ultimately given up, and the plaintiff and his party took it away in a four wheeled chaise.

1852 9th December Morning Advertiser: Surrey Sessions : **Highway Robbery**: Extraordinary Case. Harvey Stennning was indicted for stealing at Dunsfold, in the county, a watch from the person of George Welland on the Queen's Highway. It appeared from the evidence of the prosecutor, an aged man, that on the night of 11th November last year, he was turned out of a public house at Dunsfold and followed by some men. He had at the time his watch and about 18s in his possession. He found himself the following morning in a straw yard near Dunsfold Common minus his watch and money.

Information was given to the police, and about six weeks ago the watch was traced to the possession of a lad named Betts, a labourer at Nash, Buckinghamshire, the latter proved he had purchased it from a man named Franks who then proved he had won it in a raffle, having been put up by the prisoner at a public house in Nash. Evidence was given that the old man left the public house with the prisoner, a man named Mitchell and some others, which, with the watch being traced to his possession caused suspicion to fall on him.

Superintendent Fletcher of the Surrey Constabulary, said having received information respecting the watch, he went to Nash and received it from the witness Betts. The prisoner was afterwards brought to the station house at Godalming where he made a statement to a constable that he had it from Mitchell. Superintendent Fletcher said he did not hear him make this statement but he was told by the constable what was said. The constable being in court could say what was said.

Micaiah Read, Constable no 13, said the prisoner came to his house about 5 o'clock on the morning of 18th and knocked him up just after he had come off duty He got out of bed and asked what he wanted, he replied that he was not going to be told any more about the old man's watch. He would clear it up at once and intended to give himself into custody. The witness got dressed and the prisoner made a statement to him. He said "I and Mitchell followed the prosecutor out of the public house and made him stand some more beer at another house. The old man became quarrelsome, and we told him to treat us with more. A policeman came up and asked if we did not take the old man away, he would take him to the station house. We went away towards the common, when we proposed to rob him, having seen his watch and money. Mitchell robbed him and threw the bag over some furze. After that we took him to a straw house and left him.

Mitchell, knowing I was going to Nash gave me the watch to make away with and I raffled it for 15s. and James Bott had a spree with the money".

Read was asked why his evidence was not in the depositions and was he examined before the magistrates. He replied he was not as after he told Superintendent Fletcher about it, he was told he would not let him go before the magistrates as he was not wanted and he would not be heard. The Chairman said this was extraordinary with a witness with such material evidence.

Henry Mitchell was called saying he was a labourer at Dunsfold, and recollected the old man being turned out of the public house for misconduct. He left Stenning, the prisoner, and the prosecutor together and denied all knowledge of the watch or money.

Mr Carnock, who was appearing for the prisoner addressed the jury, contending that if it were true that Read had told Superintendent Fletcher the story he told that day, respecting the prisoner's statement, and he had refused to allow him to give evidence to that effect before the magistrates, the superintendent ought not to remain in the force another hour. In his opinion, Mr Fletcher either did not believe Read or such a statement was not made at all, such appeared to be the fact, for Mr Fletcher had actually brought Mitchell, the man implicated by the prisoner as a witness, which must be obvious to the jury, that the prisoner could not have made such a statement, Mr Fletcher explained, that Read did tell him what the prisoner had said but the Bench did not require him. The Chairman in summing up stated he believed Read had stated the truth and the jury returned a verdict of guilty, the prisoner being sentenced to ix months hard labour at Wandsworth.

1853 17th May Sussex Advertiser: Godalming: A **militiaman in trouble**: A man named William Cobbett, better known as "Tinker", was apprehended by Superintendent Fletcher a day or two since for stealing a skid pan and chain from a wagon belonging to Abraham Ellis of Godalming. He was brought before the Mayor on Saturday and Committed for trial.

Stealing led: The above officer, Superintendent Fletcher apprehended Isaac Ede of Portsmouth Dock yard on Thursday, on a charge of stealing a piece of lead belonging to Mr Parsons of Godalming. The lead was stolen on March 10th and sold to a marine store dealer in Godalming. The man was committed for trial.

1853 22nd November Sussex Advertiser: Guildford: A **Militia Deserter:** A man by the name of George Leggett was brought before the Mayor charged with being a deserter from 2nd Royal Surrey Militia. It appeared that in November 1852, the prisoner enlisted at Guildford and received the bounty, soon after he obtained a coachman's situation in the vicinity of Guildford. He was summoned to appear at the training, and he attended, and succeeded in the bustle passing himself as not being the party who enlisted. From information received, Mr Superintendent Fletcher of the Godalming Division, waited upon the employer of the prisoner, the day previous and stated his suspicions. The man was called in and requested by Mr Fletcher to write his name, which was done and it was found to correspond with the handwriting of the

person who enlisted. It having been proved that the prisoner was the right man he was fined a penalty of £10, or in default tree months imprisonment.

1854 28th March Sussex Advertiser: At the County Bench Guildford: An application was made by Mrs Catherine Frances Sayers of the Red Lion Inn, Godalming for a **renewal of the license** to that house, suspended since the general licensing day. Mr Superintendent Fletcher, said that during the last fortnight the house had been properly conducted, and he had nothing to complain against it, such, however had been the case during the time the license had been suspended before. Mrs Sayers then asked what had been the fault that was complained of and the Chairman said the charge alleged against her was that the house had been kept in an irregular manner, that improper characters had been allowed to go there, and that she had been repeatedly warned of it. She said he was very particular as to the hours she kept and Superintendent Fletcher stated he had no fault whatsoever concerning the opening hours just the persons who frequented the house. The Chairman said under such circumstances they could not grant her the license, which was accordingly refused.

1854 5th December Sussex Advertiser: Guildford: **Stealing a watch:** Eli Underwood was brought before the county magistrate charged with stealing a silver watch, value 10s the property of Thomas Milton of Witley. It appeared from the evidence that the prosecutor, a labourer residing at Witley has for the last three weeks suffered from mental derangement, so much so that several persons were required to take care of him, and several were sent by the Guardians of Hambledon Union for that purpose, the prisoner being one of them.

It was the prisoners turn to take charge on Saturday 25th November, and that morning went to the house for that purpose and left the following morning (Sunday) between eight and nine o'clock, returning again about 11 o' clock in the forenoon, saying he was going to the workhouse to see his wife as he wanted to see her very particular, he went but did not return again. A silver watch belonging to the prosecutor had, the works of which he had picked to pieces had been lying on the mantle shelf during this time and at 2 o'clock on the Sunday afternoon it was missed.

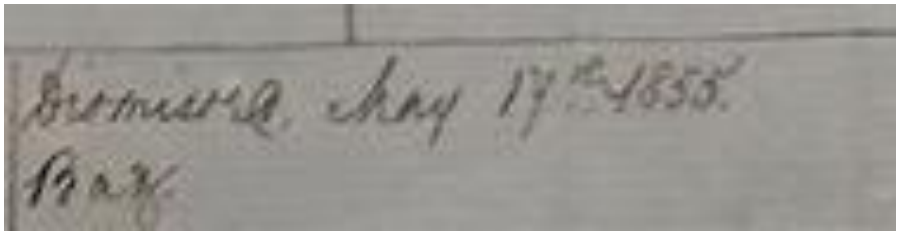
Information was given to PC Crisp who went to interview the prisoner at Hambledon Workhouse the following day when the prisoner said he did not know anything about it, only that he had seen it the day before in the old woman's hands. On Tuesday morning, the police constable accompanied by Mr Superintendent Fletcher of the Godalming Division, and the prisoner proceeded to the house of the latter situate in Mint Street Godalming, where upon searching, they found on the top of the clock case, a watch, which Superintendent Fletcher produced. The prisoner who was present at the time emphatically denied stealing it and was taken into custody. Evidence in support of the above having been given, the prisoner was cautioned in the usual manner, when he said "This watch I did not steal. On Sunday, on leaving the house about 12 o'clock, I picked it up outside the gate and took it in my hand". The prisoner was then committed for trial.

1855 27th March Ann Stuttel (sic) Fletcher **married** Charles Wheeler at Lambeth, her father being Charles Stuttel Fletcher, superintendent of police.

1855 10th April Sussex Advertiser: Guildford: Robert Morley was charged with **stealing,** taking and carrying away 38 pounds weight of hay, the property of Bennettte Gosling esq. William Newman stated he was an employee of Mr Gosling, at Busbridge and resided at Clock Barn Lodge on the Busbridge Estate and he was in the habit of feeding the beasts in the farmyard, a quantity of hay being sent for this purpose.

On the Monday morning only one truss was left in the shed and on Tuesday it was missing. The truss of hay in the possession of Mr Fletcher is of the same description as that taken from the shed. John Dashwood, police constable from Bramley stated – 'Yesterday morning I was on duty at Munstead Heath, when I met the prisoner with a bundle of hay on his back, I asked him where he got it and he said he picked it up. I then asked him to show me the place where he had picked it up and he went back about 200yards to a stone wall outside the house of the witness and said he had found it there. I took him into custody and delivered him and the hay to Mr Superintendent Fletcher. Afterward I went with Mr Fletcher to the place where the prisoner said he picked up the hay and found traces of it from that spot to the shed where the hay was kept for the cattle of Busbridge farm.' Superintendent Fletcher corroborated this and the prisoner was committed for trial.

1855 17th May GO119 17 Suspended until further orders Inspector Coward appointed to take charge Godalming – followed by – Superintendent Fletcher is dismissed for fraud. GO 125 Jan 1, 1856 May 1855 Desertion and fraud Dismissed 17 May 1855 – conduct Bad!



1856 27th December West Surrey Times – At a meeting of Godalming Town Council, the clerk of the Peace had been directed by the chief constable to report that in consequence of the bad state of the building used as a stable at Godalming Police Station he has been obliged to hire a stable at a considerable rent and requests the stable be put in a proper state of repair or failing that the rent having been paid for the present stable be deducted from the rent of Godalming Police Station.

A letter of 2nd May 1855 stated the stable to be in good repair but in a very filthy and offensive state from being used as a dog kennel and from information subsequently obtained it appeared Superintendent Fletcher did not allege the stable was out of repair but that it was not large enough, as he appropriated it to purposes of his own, keeping therein fancy dogs.

It is believed the size of the stable was a mere excuse as it is obvious the size of the stable could not be a matter of complaint. On 2nd May the Town clerk wrote to the Clerk of the peace pointing out they did not consider themselves liable for anything but landlord's repairs. In August the Police Station was inspected and it was agreed repairs were needed and would be done forthwith.

1855 After the Surrey Constabulary: It is not clear what happened to Charles Fletcher when he left Surrey Constabulary, but it is possible that he became a police constable in another force and died between 1861 and 1871. At this time there are two men of this name serving in the Metropolitan Police.

1861 Census at St Margaret's Westminster lists Hannah Fletcher aged 55 years, married living with her son Charles aged 20 years, he was born Ramsgate.

1861 21st July at the parish church of St John the Evangelist, Westminster William Charles Fletcher aged 21years **married** Eleanor Adams, his father given as Charles Fletcher, Police Constable.

1862 October 19th Victoria Fletcher **married** David Thorogood at St Stephen Westminster, her father was Charles Fletcher, policeman.

1871 Census at Lambeth, Hannah Fletcher is a widow, **receiving relief**.

1875 27th October, Elizabeth Fletcher was **married** to Henry Marmaduke Raine at St Mary's Church Lambeth and her father is described as Charles Fletcher, police constable, deceased.
Hannah Fletcher remained In the Westminster district for the remainder of her life dying in April 1894

Superintendent James Murtell
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 38
Joined 13 January 1851
Retired October 1876
Died March 5, 1879
First Full-service Pensioner

A Turner by trade and 10th Hussars, British Army 1832-1838

Age 31 in 1851 5 feet 8 inches born Chichester.

1851 January 13 Joined Surrey Constabulary

1856 3 May PC James Murtell promoted first class to inspector Chertsey Division having been at HQ since 26 March during which time successive detachments have been drilled. To return to Walton on Thames. Commendation from Chief Constable for the way he has discharged his duties as drill inspector

GO 130 24 October 1856 Superintendent at £85 to Godstone

1856 November 11 inspector at £65pa

1858 May promoted superintendent at £85 pa then superintendent £90 June followed in 1864 superintendent on £100.

GO140 May 5, 1858 Superintendent William Henry Biddlecombe having resigned Superintendent Murtell from Godstone to Chertsey.

1876 October 19: Full pension £120 pa died March 5, 1879 Brighton

1851 December 16: Magistrate's Clerk's Office: December 12 Ockham: James Wells a labourer from Ockham was brought up in custody by PC Murtell having been charged with **threatening to take the life of his wife** Martha who is in a far state of pregnancy, because she refused to take drugs to induce an abortion. The prisoner was severely reprimanded by the magistrates who ordered him to find two sureties in £20 each to keep the peace for 12 months. The required security no being forthcoming he was sent to prison for two months.[81]

1853 December 26: Large fire at the Royal Paper Mills at Esher close to the station caused the trains to be stopped. Damage worth £100,000 pounds was caused and 250 people thrown

[81] 1851 December 16: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette

out of work. Mr Superintendent Biddlecombe and Inspector Murtell with a body of police rendered great assistance by keeping the idlers out of reach of danger. [82] [83]

Funeral Inspector Donaldson

1855 August 3: On the following Friday, Inspector Donaldson was buried at St Bartholomew's Church. Whatever the neglect of future generations might be, the memory of his bravery was still fresh in the minds of the townspeople and his colleagues, and they united to give him a hero's funeral.

The Chief Constable was unable to attend, but most of his senior officers were there. Apart from the family mourners the coffin was followed by four of the five Divisional Superintendents, namely, Messrs Parr (Guildford), Burridge (Godalming), Everett (Farnham), and Page (Dorking). Then came Inspectors Frost and Murtell. Behind them marched a column of thirty-two constables, all wearing ceremonial mourning sashes. Following the police contingent came some fifty of the principal inhabitants, in procession, and behind them came all the townspeople who were not already lining the route to see the cortege pass. The shops of the town remained closed during the day, as a final tribute of respect and sympathy. At the Parish Church the Rector, the Reverend Hesse, was waiting to perform the burial service. In the Burial Register the event is recorded without any comment. 'No.892. William Donaldson, of Haslemere, aged forty-seven August 3rd 1855'. The Inspector's grave is not included in the list compiled at the close of the nineteenth century, and it is assumed that either no permanent memorial was erected, or that it was removed when the church was rebuilt in the eighteen-seventies.

1856 April 15 Surrey Quarter Sessions: Mary Ann Strip 18, a spinster was charged with **stealing at Byfleet** a cash box containing about £10 in gold and silver monies, and also three petticoats the property of James Holroyd. Mary was in service with the Holroyd family and Mrs Holroyd went into Mary's bedroom and looked into her box and some of the alleged stolen property was found. Superintendent **Biddlecombe** was called and the room searched more carefully and Mrs Holroyd found more of her property. PC 9 Edwin Colville Moore Surrey Constabulary deposed that on Friday 20 March the prisoner was in custody at Chertsey police station and said she wanted to see Mr Biddlecombe and she wished to make a statement in which she admitted the thefts and if Mr Biddlecombe would take her to her mother's shed, she would point out where the property was. Biddlecombe cautioned the girl and PC Moore who was standing by the cell door heard it being given. Superintendent William Henry Biddlecombe Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary said he was stationed at Chertsey. On March the 20th he received information and went with **Inspector Murtell** to the prosecutor's house. Biddlecombe searched inside and Murtell the outside. Something transpired and Biddlecombe went to the prisoner's mother's house and apprehended the prisoner. Inspector Murtell gave evidence of finding the cash box in Mr Holroyd's coal cellar covered in coals. Strip was found guilty but the jury recommended mercy on account of her affliction of numerous fits and her

[82] The Morning Post (London, England), Monday, December 26, 1853; pg. 4; Issue 24965
[83] The Times (London, England), Monday, Dec 26, 1853

youth. The chairman said they were about to pass a **sentence of pure humanity rather than strict justice** and he hoped the public would not misunderstand it. He hoped she would get the better of the physical infirmity under which she laboured and her moral character would improve. Sentenced to one month's imprisonment.[84]

1856 August 30: On Tuesday afternoon Inspector James Murtell Surrey Constabulary apprehended a man named John Baker with a small **pony in his possession which was found to be stolen.[85]**

1858 May 25: Surrey Adjourned Sessions: Court House Newington: On the magistrates assembling the Clerk of the Peace said in consequence of **Mr Biddlecombe** late Superintendent of the rural police having taken an inn at Chertsey, **Mr Murtell** Superintendent at Godstone had been removed to Chertsey and Mr **Alfred Bungard** from Guildford was appointed in Mr Murtell's place at Godstone, but it was necessary for the court to appoint him as **Inspector of Weights and Measures** for the Godstone Division. Mr Bungard was accordingly sworn in.[86]

1858 July 21: Police Gazette: Between the hours of 4 and 5 pm the **dwelling house** of Isaac Smith, farm labourer at Bagshot in the county of Surrey was **broken into** and the following articles stolen therefrom: a black cloth frock coat with a piece let in under each arm, two vests one black cloth the other dark striped with watch pocket on breast and glass buttons, two pairs of trousers one corduroy the other grey mixture; one new white shirt; one silk handkerchief black and red stripes; two cotton handkerchiefs one nearly all red the other blue ground with flags of different nations; and a pair of Blucher boots. The thief left a red Guernsey and a pair of white braces in the bedroom. The man of the following description was seen loitering about near the house wearing a red Guernsey and white braces: about 25 years of age 5 feet 5 inches high, fair complexion, light hair and sandy whisker. He was traced as far as Egham wearing the stolen clothes and carrying a bundle tied up in a red handkerchief, but night setting in he could not be traced further. Information to be given to Superintendent Murtell Surrey Constabulary at Chertsey: Bow Street July 21[87]

1859 August 6: Surrey Summer Assizes Croydon: Henrico Hamilton age 30 was charged with **uttering one forged £10** Bank of England note at Woking and another to Henry Longhurst and another to **William Henry Biddlecomb** (sic) both of Chertsey with intent to defraud. The prisoner using a military rank called at the Albion Hotel, Woking and made enquires after a military man. Having spun a yarn he had lunch and offered the £10 in payment, which the landlord was reluctant to accept. The prisoner endorsed the note "H. Hamilton, Stoke Park, Berks." The landlord gave the change £9 17s 2d and he left in a gig. The next day the landlord gave the note to Superintendent Murtell.

[84] 1856 April 15: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[85] 1856 August 30: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[86] 1858 May 25 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette
[87] 1858 July 21 Police Gazette

1859 August 27: Egham races: The police arrangements were more effective than usual, a body of 20 men of the Surrey Constabulary **under the Chief Constable** Captain Hastings and Superintendents Mortel (Murtell?) and Law. There was also a detachment of a **superintendent and ten detectives**. Notwithstanding their vigilance there were several cases of robbery.[88]

1860 August 25: Robbery of bank notes by country woman and clever detection: Martha Shelley and Amelia Bow two middle aged respectable looking married women, were charged at Westminster Police Court with stealing £35 in bank note from the head gardener at Runnymede Park, **Egham.** The prosecutor met the women, one who had known before, and they persuaded him to go with them to have a drink in the Barley Mow Tavern. This he did and a few minutes later, after "pulling him about in joke," they left. Next evening, he missed his pocketbook. Inspector Murtell Surrey Constabulary was informed and he made enquiries and found the women. Two of the stolen £10 notes were traced to the women. Committed for trial.[89]

1861 August 21: Egham Races: Captain Hastings of the Surrey Constabulary was absent through illness and therefore the police arrangements devolved to Superintendent Murtell assisted by three inspectors and **forty constables.[90]**

1861 August 21: Egham Races: The course was well kept by a number of the Surrey Constabulary under Superintendent Murtell and as a proof of their efficiency we subjoin a copy of a letter which Captain Hastings has since received from one of the stewards:

Park Place
Egham
August 22, 1861

My dear Hastings

I was extremely sorry to learn of your illness and to miss seeing you here at the races. Admiral Rous who was this year my brother steward and whose opinion in these matters is equal to any in the country, wished me to express through you to the inspector and men of your force employed our acknowledgements of the temperate, judicious and successful exertions on the racecourse.

It was his own observation and remark in which many of the most influential members of the Turf fully concurred that they had never seen these duties more promptly or properly performed.

The control of considerable crowds, both of carriages and foot people was as efficiently maintained as the course was for each race expeditiously cleared, and I myself mention as corroboration of that success of their exertions that during the two days only two cases of the

[88] 1858 August 27: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[89] 1860 August 25 The Wells Journal
[90] 1861 August 21: Sporting Life

most ordinary class of cardsharping and vagrancy were brought before me in my magisterial capacity.

We shall feel obliged by your communicating to Inspector Murtell and his men the obligations the stewards feel under for this preservation of order.

Henry Seymour[91]

1861 September 21: Egham – conviction of a notorious burglar: At the Surrey Session on Tuesday last Edward Thompson alias Edmund Winkworth a notorious housebreaker was tried at the above sessions for breaking into a house at Egham and sentenced to ten years penal servitude. Previously convicted of for stealing fat from Mr Gurney at Egham when he was sentenced to 12 months hard labour. A further sentence of four years for burglary at Peckham and has undergone several terms of imprisonment since. He has committed robberies by housebreaking in broad daylight at Denham, Burnham, Langley Marsh and various robberies in the counties of Berks, Hants, Herts, Middlesex and Surrey. Winkworth broke into a house at Knoll Hill, Egham but he was disturbed by the householder he got under the bed to hide himself but was soon dragged out by a group of "navvies" who had come to assist their "mate" the householder. The prisoner was given in charge to a PC of the Surrey Constabulary. Since Winkworth's committal Mr **Superintendent Murtell** of the Surrey Constabulary, Mr Superintendent Berry, and PC McClonkie Bucks Constabulary, proceeded to London and found the prisoner's residence where they found evidence that his wife was busy pawning and disposing as fast as Winkworth could forward the stolen property to her. Great credit is due to the officers for their exertions in tracing much of the property from the numerous robberies. [92]

1863 January

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	37 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	James Law	Witley	
Reigate	Inspector	Mr Charles H Coward	Reigate	15
Dorking	Superintendent	Mr John Page	Dorking	15
Dorking	Inspector	Mr Henry Stemp	Leatherhead	
Chertsey	Superintendent	Mr Charles Hollington	Chertsey	23
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr William Lambert	Bagshot	
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr John Jones	Egham	
Godstone	Superintendent	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Godstone	11
Farnham	Superintendent	Mr James Murtell	Farnham	12

[91] 1861 June 22: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[92] 1861 September 21: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette

			Total strength	113
		Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective Districts		

1863 Saturday, 14 November: "The melancholy death of Mr Dart, the assistant overseer of Aldershot."[93]

It is with painful regret that we have to record the sudden death of Mr Samuel John Dart, assistant overseer and collector of taxes for the parish of Aldershot, under the following somewhat extraordinary circumstances.

It appears that the deceased proceeded to Farnham on Thursday, the 5th of November, for the purpose of collecting rates of gentleman there who possess property in Aldershot, and in not returning caused his wife to be uneasy respecting his safety. Mr Morgan, of the Havelock Arms, went to Farnham yesterday morning in search of him, and upon making enquiries was told that a man had been found dead, lying in a ditch, at Coxbridge, about a mile from Farnham, on the road to Bentley, and that the body had been removed to the Farnham workhouse, where Mr Morgan went and recognised the body to be that of the above-named gentleman. It is thought that Mr Dark lost his way. The deceased has left a wife and young family.

Inquest on the body: On Saturday afternoon last an enquiry was opened at the Farnham Union before C.J. Woods Esq, coroner for the Western division of the county of Surrey, touching the death of Samuel John Dart, assistant overseer and collector rates for the parish of Aldershot, who was found dead on the previous Friday morning about a mile from Farnham, under the circumstances detailed in the subjoined evidence.

The jury having proceeded to the 'dead house' to view the body. William Attfield, of Park Place, shoemaker, was called, and deposed as follows; I did not know the deceased, whose body I have just seen. Yesterday morning, a little after 3 o'clock, as I was coming down Castle Street, I saw a man sitting down on the grass under the lamp, opposite the residence of Archdeacon Utterton. He was apparently dozing, having his arms upon his knees, and his head resting on one hand. I spoke to him, but he made no answer, and I lifted him up, standing him on his feet. He then spoke, saying that he lived opposite. Where, at Mr Ainslie's or Colonel Armstrong's? And he said, "where am I?" I told him he was in Farnham, and he then said, "I am Mr Dart, from Aldershot." I asked if I could assist him to any place where he could remain for the night, and he replied, “No, but if you will leave me for a short time, I shall soon be better and able to get home." I saw some blood on his cheek and asked how he came by it. I drew him towards the lamp and observed a graze over one of the eyes. I cannot say which. He lifted up his hand

[93] Possibly from Sheldrakes Military Gazette – posted on Facebook. Email Phil Dunford to Robert Bartlett 20 February 2017

to show me a cut, and I noticed a ring upon the finger. I went a little further on and picked up what I believe to be a book about this size (pointing to one on the table.)

In reply to the coroner, Mr Superintendent Murtell said that the largest book found belonging to the deceased did not answer the description given by the witness.

Witness: I went back and gave it to him and he said it was his, and immediately placed it under his arm. He then walked away up Castle Street, wishing me good night, to which I replied. I went home in the opposite direction and shortly after reaching home the clock struck four. I have seen a dead body lying here and it is the same person whom I saw in Castle Street. He wore and Inverness cape and black hat, the latter of which I picked up, and wiping away the dirt placed it on his head. When I left him and saw which way he was going, I told the deceased that he was not on his way to Aldershot. He made answer and said that he knew which way he was going.

William Baigent deposed: I live in Potters Yard, Farnham and I am a labourer. I did not know the deceased personally. Yesterday morning about 11:30 I was working for Mr Roumieu, and having finished a job, had occasion to go past a spot in company with my son when I saw the deceased lying in a stream of water about 8 to 10 inches deep. I first noticed clothes on the water, and on looking more closely I saw the forehead of a man, the face been covered by cape which he wore. Before touching the body, I called to 3 men, named John Budd, Charles Collins and William Collins, who were working in the field close by. The deceased was lying on his back, with a current of water of two or 3 inches deep above the face, which was looking upwards. The stream in which she was lying was at the time from 18 inches to 2 feet deep, because of the ditch be narrow, the body had formed a "bay" and partly stopped the water, but it is general depth is from 8 to 10 inches. The width of the ditch is about 18 inches and the body was in it like a vice. The ground on each side is swampy, and there is no footpath within 700 or 800 yards of the ditch. The footmarks showed that the deceased came from some distance up beside the stream, and the soil, being of clay at the place where he fell; it caused his foot to slip. I am certain there was no ring on either of his hands at the time he was taken out of the water.

My son ran to the police station at Farnham, and I and the other men remained with the deceased, until Police Constable Gray arrived about an hour afterwards and search the body. I saw a bruise on the left cheek, and the eye looked a little darkened. The right arm, where it came in contact with the bank, was very red. A great many finger marks were visible on the bank where the deceased had struggled with his right hand, and his coat sleeve was worked up for some distance. There was some clay on his hand and in the fingernails, as though the deceased had struggled to get out of the ditch. His cloths were not torn. The deceased would have to fall the distance of four or 5 feet, as the bank slopes on each side of the ditch.

Police Constable Gray stated that he saw the body on the previous day about 12 o'clock, and on searching it found £11 12s 6d in cash on the person of the deceased, a seal, and other articles,

including receipt book for assessed taxes. He at once recognised the body as that of Mr. Dart, of Aldershot.

Mr B Y Knowles, surgeon, deposed; I was yesterday called upon at 3:30 in the afternoon, to view the body of the deceased, whom I knew personally, at the workhouse. I have the body stripped and made an examination of it. It was covered with small leaves, rough grass, and dirt, which had been worked between the body and the clothes. I found a suppurated bruise on each knee, and one on the right shinbone. There was a slight bruise on the right elbow, but there was no discoriation. There was also a bruise on the left cheekbone, with slight discoriation, and ecchymosis had taken place. I noticed discoriation of the forehead over the right eye, which had bled, but there was no fracture. The deceased had previously lost the use of one arm. He was about 60 years of age. The bruises I have described were none of them of any serious consequence; and there was nothing in general appearance of the body inconsistent with the death from drowning.

Mr Superintendent Murtell informed the coroner that if an adjournment took place, he should probably be able to produce additional evidence.

Mr Dart, postmaster, of Guildford, the deceased's brother, in reply to the coroner said that the latter was 60 years of age and had a wife and five children. He was of temperate habits.

The coroner said, that at present a portion of the case was involved in mystery, and it would therefore be desirable to adjourn the enquiries.

The jury were then bound over to attend again, and the inquest was adjourned until Wednesday.

The adjourned inquest was resumed on Wednesday at the workhouse, when the following additional evidence was given:

William Stillaway, a labourer, residing at Badshot Lea, said he had known the deceased by sight for about 12 months. On Thursday night about 12 o'clock he saw him in Farnham, at the corner of the road leading to the police station, Park Lane. Deceased was leaning over the wheel of a cab. He did not speak to him. Witness then went into a public house near at hand, and, after being there for some time, he had an altercation, and getting up to see what it was he observed Mr Dart outside the door, the landlord (Mr Haslet) preventing him entering, and saying he thought that he (Mr Dart) had had enough. Witness said to Mr Dart, "are you going home?" And he said, "yes." Witness then told him he would accompany him, and Mr Dart asked him if he would have something to drink. They then went back into the public house, and had a glass of gin, which Mr Dart paid for, but did not take any himself. Subsequently he paid for a pot of ale and witness drank a glass. They then went on, witness helping him a little. When they got opposite the gas house, East Street, deceased stopped and said that they were on the wrong road, and witness said, "Mr Dart, do you not know that this is the gas house?" But he did not reply.

They then went on, and when opposite the Albion he said that they were going the wrong road altogether, and, pointing towards Farnham, said that was the right road; he wanted to go to High Street, Aldershot, and said that was the road pointing to the proper one. They then went on, and when at the tollgate on the Guildford Road, leading to Aldershot by Badshot Lea, deceased took himself from witness, and turning round, said it was not his road and he would not go any further. Witness replied it was, and took hold of Mr Dart, but he refused to go. Witness then said that he should take his own course and watched the deceased as far back as the Albion hotel. He never saw the deceased again. He did not see him fall as he went along, nor did witness notice that deceased had sustained any injury. Deceased had no parcel with him. Witness could not say whether he had a ring on his finger. In the morning he went into Mr Pharo's at Aldershot and ask him if he had heard anything of Mr. Dart, as he met him in Farnham on the preceding night the worst for liquor. Mr Pharo said he had not and asked him not to tell Mrs Pharo of deceased being tipsy. Mr Dart had offered him as they went along half a crown to see him home, but he did not give it to him. If he had he should not have left him.

Mr Knowles was then called and said that since Saturday he had made a post-mortem examination of the deceased. He observed a mark upon the little finger is if there had been a ring on it, a slight excoriation being on the finger, there have been also a mark on the other. Ring appeared to have fitted tightly. I think it was scratched on the top, and all the fingernails of the right-hand were filled with clay. There were no other marks besides those he had described on Saturday. The face was pale and passive, and the eyes partly open, and pupils dilated. He then opened the body, and, on examining the stomach, found a little water and some food in it. There was no particular smell, understand it was a violet colour. The colour would have been caused by the act of digestion going on at the time of death. The heart was filled with fluid blood, particularly on the right side, and the lungs were collapsed. That was a good deal of mucus in the lungs, and some in the bronchial tubes. He then opened the head and found no corresponding bruise internally with the external bruise on the forehead. There was no fracture of the skull. The brain itself was healthy, except the lower portion, which was slightly congested. This might have been caused by suffocation.

There was nothing in the appearance of the body contrary to the supposition that deceased died from drowning. The appearance being such as would have been produced by asphyxia. He supposed that when the deceased fell into the ditch he struggled to get out. Witness did not think he breezed after he fell into the ditch. There was no appearance of the deceased having suffered from the recent attack of paralysis. He did not think from the appearance of the body that Mr Dart had been given any drug on the night of his death.

In answer to the coroner, Mr Murtell said he could not find that the deceased had a large sum of money about him than have been found on him.

Police Constable John Gray deposed that on Friday afternoon about 12:30 he was called to see the deceased and found several persons around him. Deceased was lying by the side of the ditch. His clothes were wet and buttoned up close, except his overcoat, which was loose. They did not appear to have been torn. I'm searching his pocket he found three pocketbooks

containing receipts, all the money was found in his right-hand pocket, other pockets contained a seal, silver medal, a pair of silver mounted eyeglasses, and a pocketknife. There were two handkerchiefs in the pockets but he did not touch them.

Mr Superintendent Murtell said that Mrs Dart was positive a husband had a ring on his finger when you left home in the morning, and two knives, one larger than the other.

Police Constable Gray further stated that the ditch with the deceased found was not more than 18 inches wide, 6 feet deep, and had 6 inches of water in it. The finger-marks what on the side near the hop field, where the bank was about 4 foot deep. He thought that a person who is intoxicated falling into it could not get up, and, the bottom was of loose clay, the more he worked the more difficult it would have been to get up.

In reply to some questions from one of the jurymen, Superintendent Murtell said that there were no constables out in Farnham from 6pm on the 5th until 2 o'clock on the following morning, and during that time the town was in the hands of the celebrants of 5th November.

David Hawkes, a servant, said he did not know the deceased. About 12pm on the 5th, while standing outside his door in East Street, nearly opposite the Savings Bank, he saw a person clinging to a lamppost, and after some time observed him turn round to follow the party that appeared to be going to Aldershot, when he fell heavily. He then assisted him over against the wall, and the person told him his name was Dart. He soon after got up, and witness watched him walk for about 60 yards pretty steady.

Mr Murless, vestry clerk, Aldershot, here entered the room, and informed the coroner that he had been requested to apply for the papers which have been found on deceased. In reply to the coroner Mr Murless said that the parochial authorities have no reason to believe that there was anything wrong in the deceased's accounts. They had examined the accounts to some extent, so far had found them right. The surveyor of taxes the other day had found that the deceased had collected about £325, of which about £313 had been paid in, and they did not anticipate any such thing as defalcations. In answer to further questions, Mr Murless said that Mr Dart did not carry the receipt book with him when collecting rates, so that the counterfoils would not show the amount collected. Mr Dart, owing to not having the use of his left arm, being in the habit of taking receipts and leaving the counterfoils to be filled in after he returned home.

This concluded the enquiry, and the learned coroner then ably summoned up, pointing out to the jury that there was no reason to suppose that the deceased had met with any ill treatment. As regarded the missing ring, it was very possible that it was forced off the finger by deceased's efforts to get out of the ditch; and it was also made clear by the evidence that the reports as to Mr Dart having had £100 in his possession at the time of his death were quite unfounded. There was no doubt that all the money that he had collected had been found on his person. As to his getting into the ditch it was evident that the deceased had mistaken his road and was in the state which the evidence showed he was in, and, having himself examined the spot since Saturday

he (the coroner) could readily concede with the opinion of the witness Gray, that a person falling into the ditch could not, unless with assistance, get out of it.

After a short consultation the jury returned an open verdict of "found dead." He is buried in Redan cemetery.

1864 2 July: Robberies in the High Street Guildford: Borough Quarter Sessions: William Taylor pleaded guilty to stealing a coat worth 16s the property of Mr Sartain, Clothier, of High Street on 16 May last and a pair if trousers value 10s the property of Mr Hawkins, Pawnbroker also of High Street. A former conviction on the 18 November 1861 was put in but the prisoner denied any knowledge of it. Superintendent Murtell of Farnham proved being present at the trial; the property in question was stolen from Chertsey and he was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment. Two former convictions were also proved against him. The jury found him guilty and the recorder said there were no less than 7 cases against him. He had been living on plunder since 1857 and the sentence was five years penal servitude.[94]

1865 April 8: County Bench: William Daborn a butcher of Cobham was summoned by Superintendent Martell (Probably Murtell) for having in use in his shop **unjust scales** which were three-quarters of an ounce against the purchaser. Fined 1s 9d including costs.[95]

1865 April 8: County Bench: How two policemen preserved the peace: (Possibly Chobham) George Henry Vincent summoned Charles Matthews and Edwin Knight both police constables of the Surrey Constabulary for having committed upon him a violent assault on Saturday night April 1. The case appeared to excite considerable interest. The complainant and most of his witnesses are in the employment of the well-known brewers, Messrs Holy, Murdock's and Co. Vincent whose nose bore the mark of a cut and whose eyes were both blackened deposed that on Saturday night about ten minutes past twelve I came out of the Crown Brewery tap; Thomas Keene and James Arborn came with me and we stood at the White Hart Inn. PC 31 Knight knocked down a man called Moorcock who was talking to us, and Marshall another man said, "It is a shame to knock down Jack Moorcock."

PC Knight said, "I will b---- soon knock you down." And he did so. PC Matthews knocked down another man and then Tom Keeke; both policemen used their fists. I said, "It is scandalous thing for policemen to be knocking down people like that." PC Knight said to me "You are another b---." And he hit me with his fist and struck me on the nose giving me two black eyes and knocked me down. When I got up and staggering PC 14 Matthews struck me on the ear and knocked me down again. Both the policemen kicked me when I was down, and when I ran away to get off, PC Knight ran after me and kicked me. There was another policeman present but he did not interfere."

[94] 1864 July 2 Surrey Advertiser
[95] 1865 April 8: Surrey Advertiser

PC Matthews: I declare I never knocked anyone down. I never hit anyone. Vincent: You knocked down three or four men. PC Matthews: You were drunk. Vincent: No, no more than I am now, it must be you that was drunk to have acted as you did. PC Knight said the witness had told nothing but falsehoods.

James Ruff said he saw PCs Knight and Matthews knocking brewer's men down with their fists and saw PC Knight strike Vincent full on the face. Vincent ran away and the two policemen ran after him and Matthews made a desperate kick at him. Both the policemen were drunk and used the most abominable language.

PC Matthews on being called made his defence, denied the assault and said the men were kicking up a row when he interfered with them. Chairman: Even if there was a row you had no right to knock the man down. Matthews: I did not sir. PC Knight also denied the charge and said he merely touched Moorcock on the breast and he fell down.

The defence called PC Henry Lee and he said that on the night in question he heard a great noise in the street and saw several brewers' men kicking up a row along with their wives. PC Knight pushed one of them and several of them got around him and showed fight; the women were screaming, and the men hollering; witness did not see the defendant strike anyone.

Superintendent Murtell said, with reference to the charge of drunkenness against the defendants that Knight slept in his house on the night in question, he saw him at five minutes to one and he was then sober. As to Matthews he could not say anything, as he did not see him.

The chairman after a few minutes consultation with his brother magistrates said the bench have taken the case into their consideration and they consider that the case is partly proved against the police, that they used too much violence in the means they took to suppress the disturbance. But I don't believe the statement made that they were drunk is proved. As a caution to the police to use less violence another time the bench fined the defendants 5s each for the very great violence they used. PC Knight (paying the fine) if that is the case with the police, I shall soon be out of it. [96]

1865 December 1: Charges against Police: At a special petty session held on Tuesday at Kingston, the magistrates were engaged nearly the whole day in investigating charges of **violent assaults committed by Superintendent Murtell** of the Surrey Constabulary, and officers under his charge. It appeared that it had been the custom on the 5 November in each year to celebrate the night at Walton-on-Thames by making large bonfires in some of the streets and roads adjacent, and in 1864 a Dr Reece living there was thrown from his horse that shied from the light of the bonfires and sustained severe injuries. This year with a view to preventing a similar occurrence, a large body of police were sent to Walton, for the purpose of putting a stop to this practice.

[96] 1865 April 8: Surrey Advertiser

The inhabitants considered this was an interference with their rights and they accordingly persisted in lighting a bonfire on the green, near to the residence of a person named Reed, when according to the evidence of William Denny a railway porter, while the people were quietly looking at the fire Superintendent Murtell with a body of constabulary approached and Murtell **ordered the police to draw their staves.** Although all was quiet, no disturbance and no resistance, about fifteen policemen immediately drew their staves, rushed in a body upon the crowd, and struck everybody they came near, and a great many persons were knocked down. After going through the evidence, the court dismissed the summons.[97]

1866 February 8: Surrey Quarter Sessions: Police officer John Foster of the Surrey Constabulary **was charged** with **Grievous Bodily Harm** with alternative charges following violence on Guy Fawkes at Walton on Thames on 6 November 1865 under the order of Superintendent Murtell a well-known and highly esteemed officer of the Surrey Constabulary called out following representations from respectable inhabitants to put down the nuisance arising from the practice of celebrating the anniversary of Guy Fawkes day by bonfire, fireworks and the discharge of fireballs. It was found that a mob of persons were assembled, a burning tar barrel was being rolled down the High Street of the village, and a bonfire was burning on the village green. The police interfered and the theory of the prosecution was that the defendant struck with his truncheon the complainant, a youth employed as an under gardener causing a severe scalp wound requiring six weeks medical care.

The defence made the case that the village was in a state of riot and extreme confusion and responded when remonstrated with by throwing stones and other missiles. Several officers were wounded including the defendant PC Fraser whose helmet was cut through and wounded on the forehead. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty for inflicting actual bodily harm. Mercy was sought as the officer was an able and most efficient man to which the chairman concurred sentencing the defendant to be fined 20s and to keep the peace for six months – now that is a little odd as it was his job! [98] [99]

1866 March 3: Drunk, Horsell: At the bench at Chertsey on Wednesday George Stephens was charged by PC Goodchild with being **drunk** in the Wheatsheaf In on the 18th ult. The case was proved and Superintendent Murtell having proved two former convictions the defendant was imprisoned for seven days. When taken into custody he **assaulted the police** and endeavoured to escape; for this he was sentenced to a further one month's imprisonment. [100]

1867 August 31: Chertsey Petty Sessions; Allen North and Albert Stevens of Chertsey were charged with being drunk and disorderly in the highway at Chertsey at midnight on the 10th inst. The charge was proved by Police Sergeant Bundy and Superintendent Murtell proved two

[97] 1865 December 1: Nottinghamshire Guardian
[98] Morning Post 8 February 1866 Daily News February 8 1866
[99] 1866 February 10 Surrey Advertiser
[100] 1866 March 3: Surrey Advertiser

former convictions against North who was committed for 7 days in prison and Stevens fined 2s 6d and 5s costs.[101]

1876 October 21 Retirement of Superintendent Murtell Surrey Constabulary: After nearly 25 years' service in the Surrey Constabulary Superintendent Murtell has resigned his appointment. He was appointed drill instructor to the force at its **formation in January 1851** and has held the **rank of superintendent for 20 years** during which time he has had charge of Chertsey, Farnham and Godstone Divisions. Previous to this he served nearly 17 years in the army, having entered the service in 1832; was twice in India and discharged as a sergeant from the 10th Royal Hussars in 1849. He is now in his 63rd year and retires on a pension of £120 9s as recommended by the Constabulary Committee at the Surrey Sessions on Tuesday.

One of our contemporaries ingeniously adds "During the long period Superintendent Murtell has been in the force he always won the respect and esteem of all with whom his duties brought him in contact." We are afraid that his "duties" often brought him into contact with rogues and thieves and it is an open question whether he always "won the respect and esteem" of this fraternity. We know what our contemporary meant to say but the meaning is ambiguous. [102]

[101] 1867 August 31: Surrey Advertiser
[102] 1876 October 21 The Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter

Superintendent George Newland

PC 10 on Joining Surrey Constabulary

Appointment 54

16 January 1851- April 1 1876

Born 1819 died 1877 after 10 years of pension

Born 1819 Froyle, Hants - died 1877 – Farnham, Surrey

1843 Married to Jane Gilham at Alton, Hampshire

1841 Census: Living Froyle, Hampshire. Occupation Agricultural Labourer aged 22 years old.

1851 January 16: Joined Surrey Constabulary age 32 5 feet 9 inch born Alton sworn 25 January

1851 Census: Living in Farnham aged 32 years with Jane. Occupation Police Constable

GO 68 1 January 1852 promoted third to second class

GO 106 15 November 1852 Drunkenness Reprimanded and moved division own expense

GO123 8 November 1855 second to first class.

GO 136 1 December 1857 first class to inspector £65 pa vice Frost resigned. Superintendent Farnham

1861 Census: Living Woodbridge Road, Stoke, Guildford. Occupation Inspector of Police.

1871 Census: Living Police Station – occupation shown as Superintendent of Police with Jane his wife, now aged 52, also living there is a niece Martha Gilham and a prisoner Rebecca Sawyer a prostitute aged 22 years.

1876 April 1: Superannuated 25 years' service £12. pa

1877 February 9: Died aged 59 years. On pension for 10 months.

1856 October 21: County Police Office Guildford: David Stanley and William Sayers two members of the gypsy fraternity were charged by PC George Newland who had apprehended them at two in the morning at Merrow with committing an act of **vagrancy** by lodging under a tent and having no visible means of subsistence. Discharged with a caution.[103]

1857 March 28: Surrey Spring Assizes Kingston: Shooting with intent to murder: Worplesdon: William Jelly 23, William Harris 32, James Chowney all farm labourers charged with shooting at James Bowring with intent to murder him. On the 11th I was on Mr Medley's ground about three o'clock on Sunday morning; Grover was with me; I had only a small stick and Grover had a life preserver, but neither had firearms. He heard two guns discharged in the woodland footsteps approached them and the parties came out of the woods where they were lying in wait. As he appeared Harris lifted his gun and fired at Bowring when he was no more than five yards off; the charge cutting his coat and causing no injury. Chowney pointed a gun at him on the other side. He went to hit Harris but was struck with a stick across the head and knocked him down. Chowney pointed his gun at Bowring but Grover seized him before he could fire. I got up and fired off the gun in the air. Chowney and Jelly said they would give in but Harris made his escape. Then the two men began to struggle and would not give in.

PC George Newland Surrey Constabulary said on the 14 December he went with Bowring and found some pieces of paper, which had been fired out of a gun where the scuffle had taken place and afterwards traced steps of one person to **Worplesdon.** The ground was very wet and muddy. Inspector Alfred Henry Bungard Surrey Constabulary, Guildford, apprehended all the prisoners. The jury found the men guilty; Harris was transported for 15 years, lucky that his actions had not resulted in murder; Chowney who acted almost as bad transported for 15 years (he had a previous conviction). Jelly, following a recommendation for mercy from the jury was sentenced to penal servitude for 4 years. [104]

1858 January 15 Establishment[105]

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	46 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr TH Glamorgan	Witley	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Ash near camp	
Chertsey	Superintendent	Mr WH Biddlecombe	Chertsey	21 men
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr George B Whenham	Walton on Thames	
Farnham	Superintendent	Mr Charles Hollington	Farnham	17 men

[103] 1856 October 28: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[104] 1857 March 28: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[105] 1858 January 5 South Eastern Gazette

Farnham	Inspector	Mr Edwin C Moore	York Town Frimley	
Dorking	Superintendent	Mr John Page	Dorking	14 men
Dorking	Inspector	Mr John H Law	Leatherhead	
Reigate	Superintendent	Mr Charles H Coward	Reigate	14 men
Godstone	Superintendent	Mr James Martell	Godstone	11 men
			Total strength	123
		Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective Districts		

South Eastern Gazette 6 January 1863

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	37 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	James Law	Witley	
Reigate	Inspector	Mr Charles H Coward	Reigate	15
Dorking	Superintendent	Mr John Page	Dorking	15
Dorking	Inspector	Mr Henry Stemp	Leatherhead	
Chertsey	Superintendent	Mr Charles Hollington	Chertsey	23
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr William Lambert	Bagshot	
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr John Jones	Egham	
Godstone	Superintendent	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Godstone	11
Farnham	Superintendent	Mr James Murtell	Farnham	12
			Total strength	113
		Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective Districts		

1865 April 1: Farnham Petty Session: Police officer allegedly attacks prisoner: William Woods a police constable 8 in the Hampshire Constabulary was summoned by John Reely who was charged in the same court on another matter and was sent for trial at the Odiham Sessions. The deposition made by the complainant was that when Woods arrested him on Thursday at the Bull and Butcher in Farnham, he assaulted him, wounding him in the head, because he would not give up his money until he counted it. PC Grey of the Surrey Constabulary was called by the complainant and said that he saw the defendant push the complainant over on a bench in the cell at the police station on refusing to give up his money. Witness did not think

it was necessary to have pushed the complainant. He saw no blows struck. Defendant was "not drunk but he was not sober."

Mr Superintendent Everett of the Hants Constabulary from Winchester appeared and he said that he applied on behalf of Captain Forrest Chief Constable of Hants for an adjournment of the case to allow for his being present and conducting the case for the defendant. He also applied on the ground that by an Act of Parliament there should be one month's notice given in all actions against constables. In this case there had only been one- or two-days' notice. Mr Newland said that the complainant was on bail on committal for trial on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences. The case was adjourned for a fortnight.[106]

1865 August 5: Frimley Furze-burning: Thomas Williams 16 was charged with feloniously and maliciously setting fire to a quantity of furze the property of her Majesty. On the night of the 9 April a fire in four places on furze was discovered and Superintendent Newland, Surrey Constabulary, took the defendant into custody who then admitted the charge. Notwithstanding this admission the jury found the defendant not guilty.[107]

1866 October 13: Street disturbance: A gentleman who gave his name as William Frederick Smith appeared before **Farnham** Petty Sessions. He refused to his name and address and was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Farnham on Sunday evening. Superintendent Newland was in the street when the prisoner approached him with others and on making a few observations knocked off his hat. Fined 40s and 5s 6d costs.[108]

1867 January 5: Farnham Petty Sessions: George Hood was brought up in custody charged with committing a **highway robbery** on William Knowles a pensioner on the previous evening. Superintendent Newland Surrey Constabulary applied for a remand and stated that the prosecutor received his pension on Tuesday and on returning was assaulted by the prisoner who rolled him in the snow and robbed him of upward of £4. Remanded until Monday.[109]

1867 September 21 Farnham Bench: Charles Bageant 17 and John Ware 15 were charged with **stealing from an enclosed garden** in West Street some pears and nectarines the property of Mrs Miles. Complaint was made to Superintendent Newland that the same garden had been robbed on the previous Sunday evening during divine service and other gardens in the neighbourhood having been stripped he ordered Sergeant Gray to conceal himself in the garden should there be a second visit. It seems the delinquents scaled the high wall by using a hop pole and descended the inside by the same means. The sergeant removed the pole and after a smart chase around the garden captured both. Sentenced to 14 days imprisonment with hard labour.[110]

[106] 1865 April 1 Farnham Sessions Sheldrakes Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette
[107] 1865 August 5 Surrey Advertiser
[108] 1866 October 13: Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette
[109] 1867 January 5: Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette
[110] 1867 September 21: Surrey Advertiser

1867 September 21 Farnham Bench: Alleged robbery: Charles Vernon was brought in custody by Superintendent Newland charged with having **broken into a dwelling house** at Farnham and stealing therefrom one bag and two tame rabbits. Prisoner was remanded.[111]

1869 June 1: 1869 August 7 reports of Assizes: Farnham: Joseph Deadman (Dudman) aged 22 was indicted at Croydon Assizes for **shooting at police Superintendent George Newland** with intent to murder him. On the morning of the 1 June the Superintendent and two constables Hazel and Harrington went to the house of the father of the accused to arrest Joseph for extraordinary conduct the previous day. On entering the room immediately, the defendant discharged one shot from a six round pistol wounding the superintendent in the arm not inflicting serious injury.

The prisoner then aimed the revolver at a constable at the very time of firing the superintendent hit the defendant with a stick, which diverted the weapons so that the bullet struck the wall. The officers then closed with the prisoner and after a violent struggle succeeded in securing him and searching him finding on him a single barrel pistol, some bullets and gunpowder. Before the magistrate the defendant said, "I did it when they all rushed in. I was frightened and fired the pistol and I am sorry for it." Evidence was given of extraordinary behaviour over a number of weeks, which was accepted by the jury who found him not guilty, on the grounds of insanity. He was sentenced to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure[112] [113]

1871 August 26: Attempted Murder and attempted Suicide Farnham: At Churt lived a man and his wife with a great disparity in their social position. The wife had a military lover for about five years. The lover Rodway following the severance of the association took lodgings at the Devils Jumps Inn and wrote two letters. Rodway went to his lover's house knowing the husband was not there and there was an argument with his former mistress. The mistress Mrs Carrington left the room and, in the hall, she was stabbed several timed by Rodway with a clasp knife. She ran from the house to go to the Inn but being pursued by her attacker she took refuge in a house. After receiving medical treatment, she was taken home and is in a parlous state. Rodway then stabbed himself several time but was well enough to be taken into custody by PC 22 Finch and taken to Farnham police station where he was handed to Superintendent Newland. In 1872 at Kingston Assizes, Rodway was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. [114]

[111] 1867 September 21: Surrey Advertiser
[112] Daily News 5 August 1869
[113] 1869 August 7 The Surrey Advertiser and County Times
[114] The Lancaster Gazette, and General Advertiser for Lancashire, Westmorland, Yorkshire, &c. (Lancaster, England), Saturday, August 26, 1871; pg. 3.

PC William Neil Kendillon
Appointment 61 Surrey Constabulary
One of the original 100 - dismissed
PC/PS Metropolitan Police
Surrey Constabulary 1851
Constable Hyde Park
Convicted for Fraud
1815 – 1880 Kensington

Additional material from Jean and Henry Pelham

A sergeant in the C Division Metropolitan Police - was an inspector of the Surrey Constabulary, and a constable at Hyde Park. [115] (This does not appear to be the case – third class constable)

Appointment Register 61 17 January 1851 shows dismissed 2 April 1851.[116] Age 34 in 1851, 5 feet 8 inches tall, born London joined Surrey Constabulary 17 January 1851

GO 50 17 June 1851: April 2 William Kendillon being absent without leave two reports against him previously. (No rank or station shown – appointment register shows third class constable0)

Family History

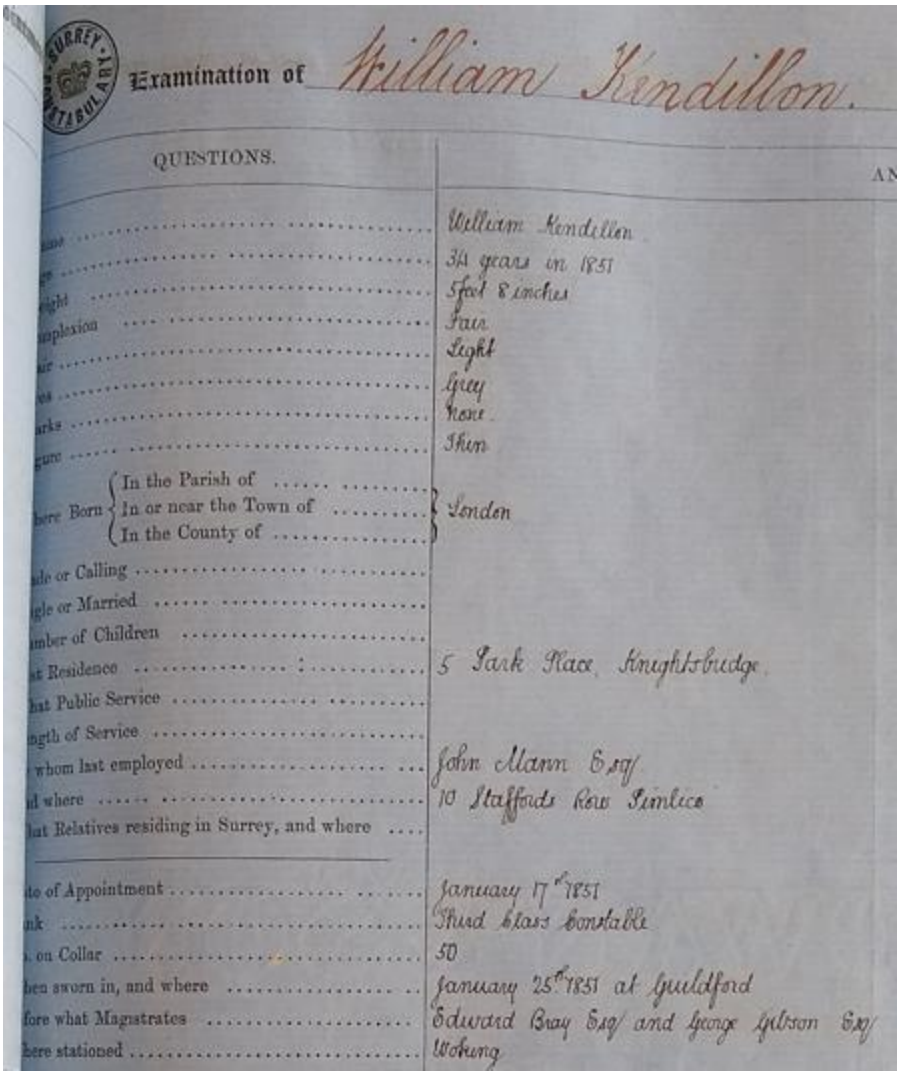
Married: 8 November 1838 to Mary Ann Leppard, Saint Martin in the Fields, Westminster, London[117]

1841 Census: Living with wife Maryann and several Police Constables, address Triumphal Arch Police Station, Hyde Park Corner, St Martin in the Fields, London. William Kendillon's age is shown as 20, and a birth year of 1821 in Ireland. His occupation is Police Sergeant.

1851 Census: Living Woking, Guildford, (sic) Surrey, single age 33 – occupation Police Constable.
1861 Census: Aged 42 - Living Chelsea with wife Mary aged 38 and children: Alice 16, Henry 10, Alfred 6, Sarah 3. Occupation - Solicitors Clerk.

[115] 21st October 1861 Reference Number t18611021-867 Old Bailey Trials
[116] Surrey History Centre, Woking Appointment Register Surrey Constabulary
[117] Ancestry.com. *England, Select Marriages, 1538–1973* Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2014

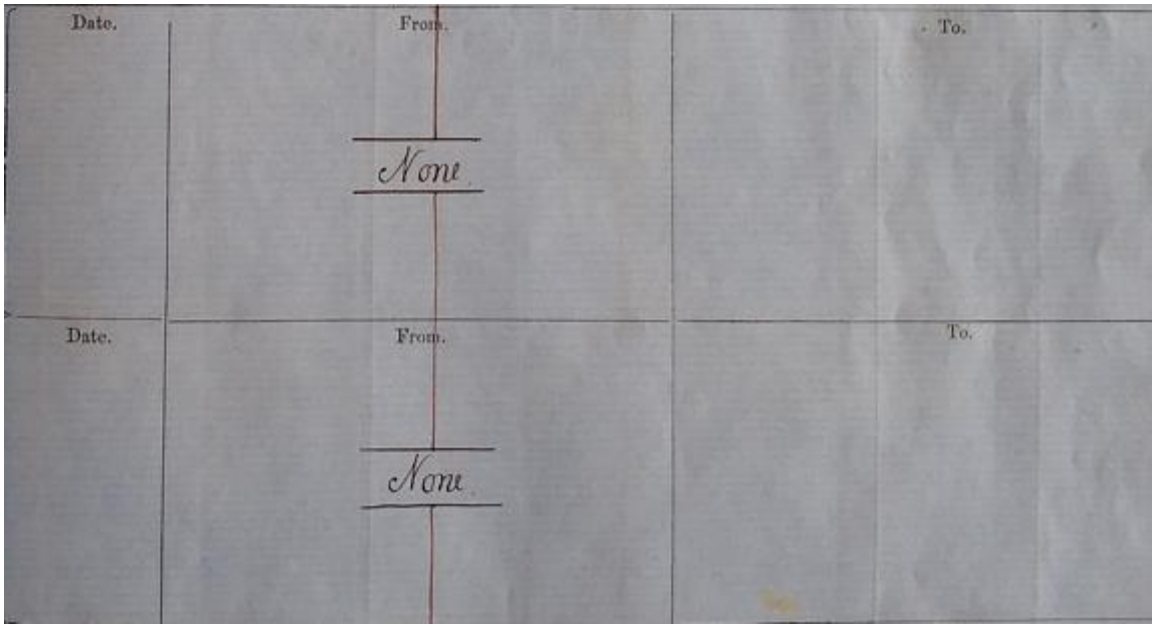
1871 Census: Aged 54 Living Chelsea, St Luke with wife Mary aged 56 and son Alfred 15. Occupation - Shoemaker.



Examination of William Kendillon.

QUESTIONS.	
Name	William Kendillon
Age	34 years in 1851
Height	5 feet 8 inches
Complexion	Fair
Hair	Light
Eyes	Grey
Marks	None
Figure	Thin
Where Born — In the Parish of	
Where Born — In or near the Town of	London
Where Born — In the County of	
Trade or Calling	
Single or Married	
Number of Children	
Last Residence	5 Park Place Knightsbridge
Last Public Service	
Length of Service	
By whom last employed	John Mann Esq
And where	10 Staffords Row Pimlico
Have Relatives residing in Surrey, and where	
Date of Appointment	January 17th 1851
Rank	Third class Constable
No. on Collar	50
When sworn in, and where	January 25th 1851 at Guildford
Before what Magistrates	Edward Bray Esq and George Gibson Esq
Where stationed	Woking

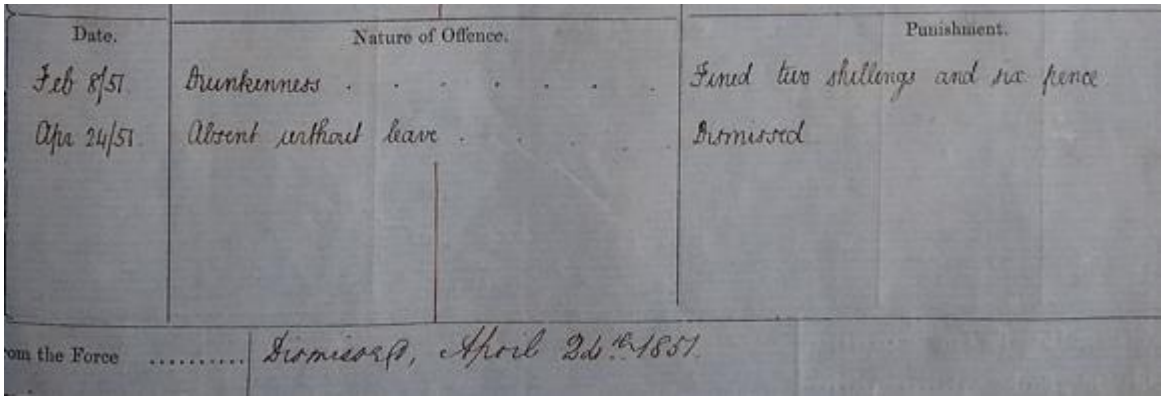
Appointment Register 61



Date.	From.	To.
	None	

Date.	From.	To.
	None	

Promotions and Removals - none



Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punishment.
Feb 8/51	Drunkenness	Fined two shillings and six pence
Apr 24/51	Absent without leave	Dismissed

om the Force ..... Dismissed, April 24th 1851

Dismissed April 24, 1851

Criminal Record[118]

1860 About September at a central London court Kendillon and another man were summarily convicted for being concerned in stealing a dog to the value of 100 guineas and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

1861 September 20 The Times: Mansion House: William Neil Kindillon a middle-aged man living at 12, Grove Road Fulham and lately an inspector in the Surrey Constabulary, who has been arrested on warrant emanating from this court, was brought before the Lord Mayor charged with unlawfully and corruptly taking £3 from Mr Edward Otto Stern, a merchant in Fenchurch Street under the pretence of aiding to recover a stolen dog to the value of £5. Aim was to bring to justice a man previously convicted of dog stealing. A dog went missing by Hyde Park and the defendant tried on a number of occasions to have the owner pay £3 and the dog

[118] http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?div=t18611021-867

would be returned. He left a card describing himself as representing The Metropolitan Society for The Recovery of Lost or Stolen Dogs and the Prosecution of Dog Stealers. PC Charles Butcher Metropolitan Police C apprehended the prisoner on warrant. Remanded on bail to Quarter Sessions. About a year ago the prisoner and another man were summarily convicted for being concerned in stealing a dog to the value of 100 guineas and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

1861 October 21, Proceedings of the Old Bailey, born about 1814, **Fraud** ,William Neil Kendillon, born about 1814. Verdict guilty

Old Bailey 21 October 1861: William Neil Kendillon (47), Unlawfully taking £3 the property of Edward Otto Stern, under pretence of aiding him to recover a certain dog which had been stolen

1863 June 11 William Neal Kendillon age 48, occupation dealer, charge of conspiracy sentenced to six months. [119]

Charles Butcher. (Policeman, *C.* 137). I had a warrant upon which I arrested the prisoner. I said to him, "Bill, I want you", he said, "What for?" I said, "I hold a warrant to apprehend you for receiving £3. from a gentleman, named Mr. Stern, for the recovery of a stolen dog." He said, "Yes; I certainly did, I had the money." I have known him some time; he was once in the police force. He was a sergeant in the C division. He has also been inspector of the Surrey Constabulary, and a constable at Hyde-park.

Fined. 1s. and Confined Eighteen Months.*[120]*

1863 June 8: **Old Bailey:** William Neil Kendillon 48 and Joseph Crowley 40: deception: Fraud: Unlawfully conspiring to obtain £5 from Harrington Balfour, by false pretences involving the stealing and returning of pet dogs.

Harrington Balfour. I reside at 2, Lower Belgrave-street, Eaton-square, and belong to the Bengal Civil Service. Mr. Upjohn had the care of my dog—on the 14th May this handbill was circulated offering £2 reward. In consequence of a communication from Mrs. Upjohn, on the morning of the 27th I came to the house from Eccleston-square. I saw Crowley talking to Mr. Upjohn in the backroom, and he said if Mr. Upjohn went with him, and paid £5. down, the dog would be given up, if it was. my dog—Mr. Upjohn told me it had a collar on when it was lost—it always had a collar on.

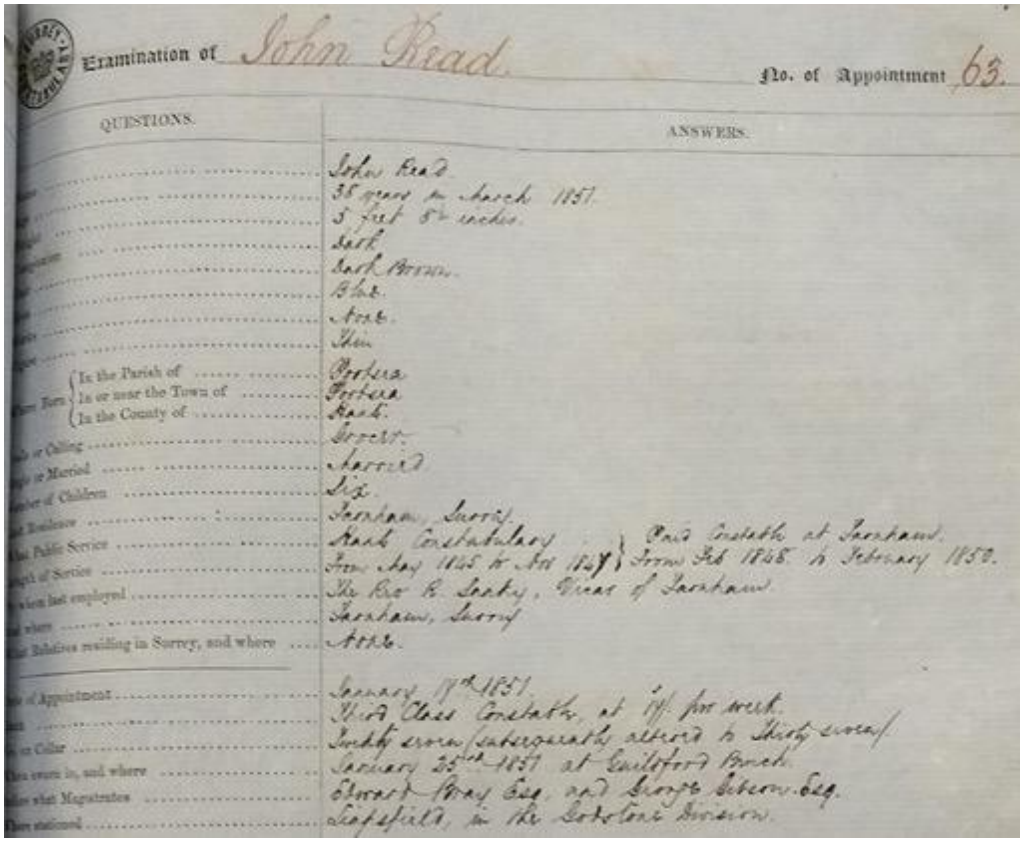
[119] The National Archives; Kew CRIM 9: CCC After Trial Calendars of Prisoners*;* Reference*:* 9
[120] Manchester Times 05 October 1861

John Spaceman Hornblow (Policeman, B 34). On the morning of 27th May, about 12 o'clock, I was called to 2, Lower Belgrave-street, and went into the front-parlour. The two prisoners came to the house, knocked at the door, and were admitted into the passage opposite the back-parlour. Crowley said, "We have come respecting a dog that is lost." Crowley went out, and returned in half an hour, and was shown into the back-parlour. He said, "I have come to my time, half an hour." Mr. Upjohn and Mr. Balfour then went into the parlour, and Mr. Balfour said to Crowley, "Am I to give you £5 how am I to know it is my dog?" He said, "There is no doubt of that, and if you go with me to Shoreditch, you can have it by paying £5." Mr. Balfour then gave him into custody. When Kendillon came with Crowley, I heard Kendillon say distinctly, "I have been at a great deal of trouble, and it will be a little extra expense." The expense was calling so many times. On the Sunday night, about 11, I took Kendillon in the Eagle public-house, Keppel-street, Chelsea. I called him into the street, told him I was a police-officer, and I should take him into custody for stealing a dog from 2, Lower Belgrave-street, the property of Mr. Balfour, and also for attempting to extort £5 for the restoration of the dog. He said, "I know nothing about it" He then said, "Where do you say it is?" and I repeated, "2, Lower Belgrave-street" He said, "I was never there"—I took him into custody.

Kendillon guilty confined six months and fined £50

Crowley guilty confined four months.

PC John Read
Surrey Constabulary 17 January 1851
First 100 Appointment 63
Superannuated March 1867



Examination of John Read. No. of Appointment 63.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
	John Read.
	35 years in March 1851.
	5 feet 8½ inches.
	Sallow.
	Dark Brown.
	Blue.
	Stout.
	Thin.
In the Parish of	Portsea.
In or near the Town of	Portsea.
In the County of	Hants.
	Servant.
	Married.
	Six.
	Farnham, Surrey.
	Hants Constabulary. Paid Constable at Farnham. From 3rd 1845 to 3rd 1847 } From 3rd 1845 to February 1850.
	The Rev R. Leahy, Vicar of Farnham.
	Farnham, Surrey.
	None.
	January 17th 1851.
	First Class Constable at 17/ per week.
	Subject even/subsequently altered to Thirty seven/
	January 25th 1851 at Guildford Bench.
	Edward Gray Esq. and George Osborn Esq.
	Godalming, in the Godalming Division.

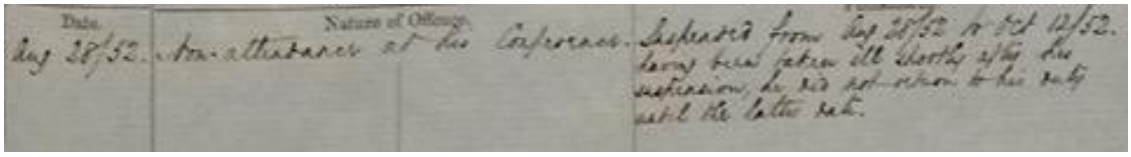
Appointment Register [121]

Married: 25 November 1833 to Ann Smith, at Titchfield, Hampshire

1841 Census: Living Titchfield with Ann, occupation Baker.

1851 January 17 joined Surrey Constabulary Age 38 1851 5 feet 8 ½ born Portsea, Hants

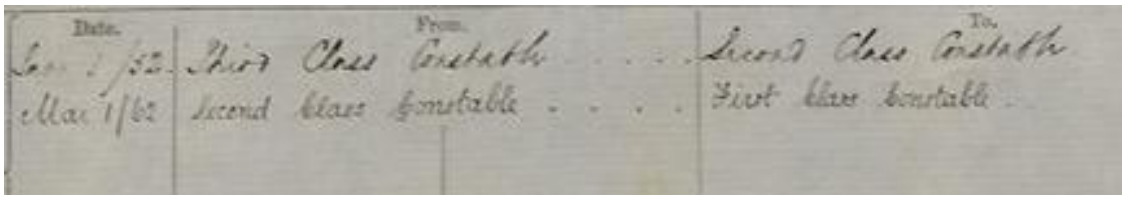
1852 August 28: suspended until 12 October 1852 having been taken ill shortly after his suspension he did not return to his duty until the latter date."



Date.	Nature of Offence.	
Aug 28/52.	Non-attendance at his Conference.	Suspended from Aug 28/52 to Oct 12/52. having been taken ill shortly after his suspension, he did not return to his duty until the latter date.

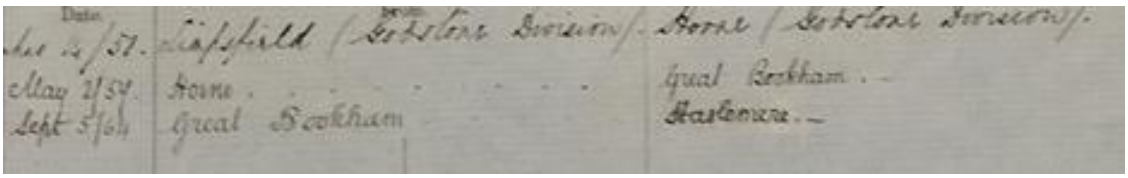
[121] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

GO 68 1 Jan 1852 promoted third to second class



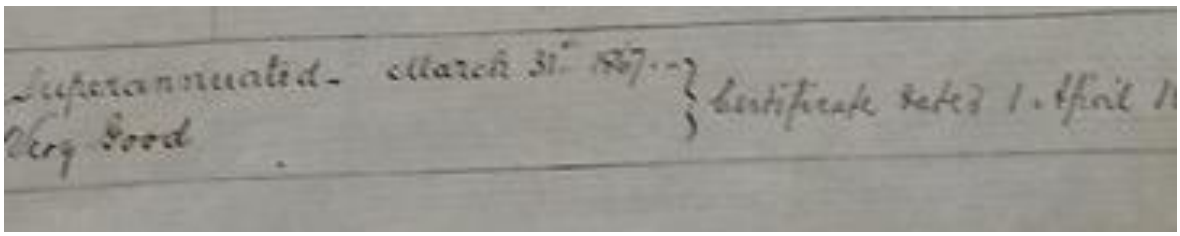
Date.	From.	To.
Jan 1/52	Third Class Constable	Second Class Constable
May 1/62	Second Class Constable	First Class Constable

1861 Census: Living Great Bookham, Surrey, with Ann and Samuel. Occupation Police Constable.



Date.	Lichfield (Cotslow Division)	Horne (Cotslow Division)
Dec 15/57		
May 2/59	Horne	Great Bookham
Sept 5/64	Great Bookham	Haslemere

1867 March 31 Superannuated after 16 years conduct very good after 4 postings and one discipline missing a conference point.



Superannuated - March 31st 1867 } Certificate dated 1 April
Very Good

1871 Census: Living Stoke Hill Road, Stoke Next to Guildford, Surrey. Occupation Police Constable.

1891 Census: Widower, aged 81, occupation Pensioner, County Police. Living Lawson Road, Portsey, Hampshire

No press reports as yet found for John Read

Superintendent John Page
Birmingham Police 1844-1845
Worcestershire Constabulary April 1845- January 1851
Surrey Constabulary Original 100 Appointment 65
January 1851- September 1873
Died 1878

Family History

1817 16th November, John Page **Born** Glastonbury 1819 was baptized at West Pennard, Somerset, his parents were John, a yeoman and Mary Page.

1841 Census John is living with his father, also John, a farmer and siblings at Little Moor, West Pennard Somerset.

Census 1861 Living in Dorking, Surrey age 5

Census 1871 Living with Howard 15 years and Frank in Dorking occupation Superintendent of Police.

Press Cuttings

1843 8th February John Page joined Birmingham Borough Police and was given warrant number 1394, it is believed he resigned on 4th April 1845 (the year being obscured by a fold in the original document)

1845 4th April, Coventry Standard: Warwick Assizes: Edward Collins was charged with **robbing** Charles Smith, on 8th December, of three keys, at Birmingham. Charles Smith lives about a mile and a half from Birmingham and on 8th December he was going home about 1 o'clock in the morning and was walking on the footpath, when he came opposite the China-fields he received a heavy blow, shouted 'Murder' and jumped into the road. He then received another blow and became insensible, when he came to himself again, he saw a policeman. He had one large cut on the right side of his head. When he was struck, he had three keys in his trousers pocket, and he did not know he had lost them until they were brought to him.

John Page, a Police Constable, was on duty on the night of 8th December when he heard the cry of 'Murder', saw someone run into the road, groaning. He also saw the prisoner and two others running way, they saw him and ran off towards Birmingham. He followed the prisoner and when he caught up with him asked what he had been doing. The prisoner did not reply and was taken to the station house. The jury found the prisoner guilty and he was sentenced to be transported for 15 years.

1845 22nd April he **joined Worcester Police** and was given collar number 27 and posted to Catshill, Bromsgrove. He was described as 26years old and 5ft 9in tall.

1845 30th July Worcestershire Chronicle: Petty Sessions: **Drunkenness**: John Page, Police Constable 27, stationed at Catshill, charged Richard Froth of Sidemoor with being drunk and disorderly at about 2 o'clock in the morning at Catshill and obstructing him in the execution of his duty. For the first offence Froth was fined 5s with 4s costs and the second withdrawn. He was allowed a week to pay the fine.

1845 6th August Worcestershire Chronicle, At Bromsgrove Petty Sessions: **Assault** on a Policeman: William Waldron of Bourn Heath was fined 2s with 8s 6d costs for assaulting Policeman Page at Catshill on 2nd August.

1845 19th November Worcestershire Chronicle, At Bromsgrove Petty Sessions: **Assault**: John Gise Read, of the Spout was charged by John Page, Police constable at Catshill, with assaulting him in the execution of his duty the previous night., about half past nine o'clock, Page was walking along the road when he saw the prisoner and three others standing at the corner of a lane, he thought they were suspicious characters and attempted to search the prisoner when a violent struggle ensued and the prisoner drew a bludgeon from his pocket striking Page several times until another man came and he apprehended him. The complainant Page was corroborated by Mr. Thomas Lander. The bench thought it was a most aggravated assault and fined him 10s and costs, in default of payment a distress warrant was issued against his goods and chattels, and a return to be made in a week.

1846 14th February John **Page resigned** from Worcestershire Police only to re-join on 15th August 1846, he was given collar number 30 and posted to Dudley.

1846 30th December Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: **Robbery** from a Lodging House-about eight o'clock on Wednesday evening, a man who sometime since worked in Kidderminster, named William Harrison, and his wife absconded from their lodgings, carrying with them a considerable quantity of wearing apparel. In formation having been given to Superintendent Jewkes, Dudley, he dispatched constables in search of the offenders, which was so far successful. PC Page having apprehended the woman at Wolverhampton the following morning as she was about to start with the coach for Abergavenny. Part of the articles were found in her possession, wrapped in a bundle, the rest having been pledged on the road for a sovereign.

1847 17th March Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: A pitiable Case: Francis Toner, **9 years and Charles Eley 13 years** whose stature scarcely placed their heads on a level with the bar, were charged with **stealing** at Dudley on 6th March last, two cloth caps, the property of Joseph Sheldon. The prisoners were further charged with stealing, at the same time and place, a cloth cap property of Jane Gardner. It was stated that Ann Sheldon kept a standing for caps in the marketplace, to which the prisoners came on the day mentioned, and after they had gone, she missed the caps. Titus Woodhall deposed that the prisoners came into an alehouse where he was sitting and offered a cap for sale at 5d. Toner ten told Eley, "My father will begin at you selling that cap for 5d." John Page apprehended Eley who said a chap called 'Cabbage' had

stolen the caps. The prisoners, who seemed indifferent at first to the proceedings, at length summoned tears to their assistance, though it required a very hard squeeze to do so., but the appearance of the boys at the bar seemed to excite much passion in the court. The jury, no doubt with merciful consideration found them not guilty. The prisoners were then tried for the second indictment where the evidence was of a similar nature to the last case. And were again found not guilty.

1847 12th May Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley Petty Sessions: Felony: John Smith was charged with stealing a bag, fiddle and bow, a pair of overalls, a boot, scarf, waistcoat, pair of drawers and a pair of shoes, property of James Pound. From evidence of Superintendent Jewkes it appeared that on Friday he received such information as induced him, in company with policeman Page to watch the premises of William Eagle Johnson, Esq, a surgeon and about one o'clock that night he saw the prisoner come from a wall which separates Mr Johnson's yard from the adjoining property, cross the yard towards the saddle room and come out again. He then went and collared him, at which time he had the articles enumerated under his arm, which he let fall. Page then came and picked them up. The prisoner was committed for trial.

1847 3rd July Birmingham Journal: Dudley: **Assaulting a Police Officer**: Joseph Kearns, alias Corns was charged with assaulting Police Constable John Page on Sunday last, in Wolverhampton Street while in the execution of his duty. The offence was clearly proved, the defendant was convicted in the mitigated penalty of £6 and costs- the full fine being £20 and having no goods by which the amount could be raised, was sentenced to two months imprisonment with hard labour.

1847 21st July Worcestershire Chronicle: **Murder at Dudley**: Harklas Lovell Blewit, aged 34 years, a tinker was charged with the wilful murder of his wife, Mary Ann Blewitt on 3rd of June 1847. On 3rd June he had been especially violent towards his wife, so much so she left their lodgings in fear of her life and refused to return unless he solemnly promised to leave her alone. Later that afternoon she returned, but after half an hour of peace the beatings resumed. Her cries for help did not go unheard and she was found lying in the coal hole beneath the stairs with her husband standing over her callously emptying a kettle of boiling water over her whilst she begged him to stop.

John Page, a police officer from Dudley stated that between five and six o'clock in the evening he was attracted to the house by the crowd outside. On going into the house, he saw Mary Ann had been scalded and she was shaking her fist at the prisoner. He then took her to the surgeon but she died within two days. The next day they started to look for the prisoner but he was not apprehended until three weeks later in Wrexham, Denbighshire. At the assize court he was found guilty of manslaughter and transported for twenty years. This incident is recorded in the book "Tales of old Dudley" by Paul Robinson

1847 9th December Worcester Journal: **A daughter killed by her mother**: At the village of Netherton, near Dudley an inquest was held on the body of Caroline Flavell, aged 16 years who been stabbed in the side with piece of iron by her mother, Rosanna Flavell. The deceased, who

was a very undutiful daughter, had been in the habit of selling pieces of iron belonging to her parents (who were nail makers), for the purpose of obtaining sweetmeats, and this coming to the knowledge of her mother had much irritated her. Both parties were at work in the nail shop about two o'clock in the afternoon of 30th November, making nails, when the mother accused her daughter of selling some iron to an itinerant sweetmeat seller, which the daughter denied.

This exasperated the mother who threw a piece of red-hot iron at her, which penetrated the daughter's side to a considerable depth. She died in excruciating agony in a quarter of an hour. John Page, Police Constable of Dudley, deposed to going to the prisoner's premises about half past four in the same afternoon, and having found in the shop some short pieces of nail iron, among them he observed a particular piecer which he produced, as having blood upon the end of it. He also deposed to showing it to the prisoner who said, "I'll speak the truth, that is the iron I did it with." The jury returned a verdict of 'Manslaughter' against the mother, who was committed for trial at the next assizes, the unfortunate girl being pregnant at the time. Rosanna Flavell was later found guilty and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

1847 29th December Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley Petty Sessions: **Breach of the Peace:** John Cole and Joseph Neath were brought up on a charge of a breach of the peace. It appeared that on 11th December last an agreement was entered into at the George and Dragon, Hall Street by the two defendants to fight a pitched battle for 2s a side on the 27th, according to the rules of the prize ring. On the morning several hundred people met near Windmill End Furnaces, but the police were on the lookout. Having learnt their whereabouts Superintendent Jewkes and police officers Page and Hartell proceeded to the spot, but before they got near a signal was given and the numerous parties dispersed in different directions, together with the two principals, who were however apprehended by Sgt Manton. They were ordered to each find sureties of 10s and in default to be committed for 21days.

1848 12th January Worcestershire Chronicle: At Worcester Quarter Jane Blunt, aged 40 years, married and Mary Ann Blunt aged 16 years, single were charged with **stealing** a pair of boots from Samuel Warrendon at Oldswinford on 29th November last. Mr Warendon proved the loss of a pair of boots. On the day in question, Selina Brown, servant to the prosecutor saw the younger prisoner in the prosecutor's shop between five and six o'clock and she bought a pair of boots but they were not the boots produced before the magistrates.

PC30 Page apprehended Jane Blunt and found 60 pawn tickets in her hand. Edwin Stringer, pawnbroker of Stourbridge was shown a pair of boots and stated they were pledged at his shop and the pawn ticket produced by PC Page was the duplicate ticket given on the boots. The prosecutor the identified them as the pair he had missed. A verdict of guilty was returned on both prisoners. Jane Blunt was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment and hard labour and Mary Ann Blunt who was also tried for another offence of stealing 2yards of cloth at the same time was sentenced to one month imprisonment for the first offence and a similar sentence for the second offence. The Chairman remarking that the heavy punishment laid on the mother was because her evil example and tuition had doubtless led to the depravity of her daughter.

1848 1st March Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: Mary Hill aged 32 years, single was charged with **stealing a crown piece** from the person of Joshua Jeavons on 17th January. The prisoner, one of the frail sisterhood, met Jeavons in Dudley late in the evening and after a little chat together she managed to filch a crown from his pocket. On attempting to secure her he was unexpectedly knocked down by two men who were standing nearby and she escaped. She was apprehended in a liquor shop by policeman Page. Mr Best who defended the prisoner endeavoured to prove mistaken identity of his client and he was successful, a verdict of not guilty being returned.

1848 18th March Staffordshire Advertiser: Stafford Assizes: Police Constable John Page was a witness at the trial of Thomas Cavannagh and John Maloney who were committed for the **wilful murder** of Leonard Thorpe on 15th August 1847 at Tipton, and Patrick Grady who committed on the charge of manslaughter .On 14th August Leonard Thorpe had been drinking at the Angel Inn, Dudley and John Page, a police constable said that between twelve and one o'clock on 15 August he heard a cry in the neighbourhood of the Angel Public House. There were twenty or thirty persons in the street including the deceased and the prisoners Grady and Maloney. Thorpe went off towards Tipton with the two prisoners following him., Thorpe did not appear drunk. After this he went to another fight in the area. Thorpe was found on the canal bridge in Tipton later that day with wounds to his head, he died later that day. After hearing all the evidence Cavannagh and Maloney were found guilty with a sentence of eighteen months imprisonment to hard labour. Grady was acquitted.

1848 29th March Worcestershire Chronicled: Dudley: Felony: Anthony Roberts was charged with **stealing two necks of mutton** on 19th February. He had absconded ever since but was apprehended by Police officer Page on Friday in Wolverhampton. An alibi was attempted to be proved by his two sisters but it failed and he was committed for trial.

1848 12th July Worcestershire Chronicle- Dudley: **Picking Pockets:** Two youths named John Franey and Edward Cheetham were charged with attempting to pick the pockets of several persons the previous Saturday afternoon and evening. John Page, police officer, deposed to seeing the prisoners, who were together 'sound' the pockets of several individuals, and that during the evening they changed clothes. Mary Bayley also deposed to seeing one of the prisoners, but she could not positively say which, try the pockets of a Miss Jeffs, who however was not in attendance. Mr Johnson defended the prisoner and submitted there was not sufficient evidence to commit them. The magistrates, however thought otherwise and committed them for one month with hard labour as rogues and vagabonds.

1848 4th August PC 30 John Page was **posted** to Welland.

1848 5th August Birmingham Journal: Dudley: **Garden Robberies**: James Woodhall, a miner, was charged with stealing a quantity of apples from the garden of Mr John Naylor, early the previous morning. Police constable John Page apprehended the prisoner and found in his possession a handkerchief full of apples. The prisoner, who in his defence very mildly observed

he was drunk, was fined 5s and costs or in default of payment one week's imprisonment with hard labour.

1848 13th December, Worcestershire Chronicle: Malvern: **Apple Stealing**: Richard Woodward was brought up by PC Page, stationed at Hanley Castle, charged with stealing apples from a heap on the premises of Mrs Mary Haynes of Welland. He was committed for trial.

1849 7th March Worcestershire Chronicle: Upton on Severn: Samuel Hill, aged 46years was charged with **stealing 30 bushels of wheat** from his master, Mr John Hill of Dudley. The prisoner had been the farm bailiff for fourteen of fifteen years and lived in the farmhouse. The prisoner fed the ducks and fowls for the farmer's daughter on the 'cullin' (the offal or small wheat that runs through the machine) or 'tail end' At the end of harvest Mr Hill sees what is grown per acre, then adds it up for the overall total, he missed some so went to the prisoner's rooms and found corn in all of them. At no time did he sell the prisoner any wheat.

Page, a county policeman, no 30 deposed that he searched the prisoner's house and found a quantity of wheat in every room and some in the tallet. He found 20 to 30 bushels of wheat in the chaff, very little of it was "cullin." Several samples of wheat from different rooms were produced. The prisoner told him he did not like to disturb the men taking cider in the kitchen so put the wheat in the tallet. A person called Harris who had assisted in the search stated that the prisoner said "I put it there as her shouldn't know every bit the poor creatures had" Mr Hill examined the wheat and found it similar to that which he grew. The prisoner said he was sorry that his master had complained against him and as he had been in charge of everything could have easily robbed him if he liked but he had more fowls to be fed than 'cullin' to give so took some wheat to use later in the year. The chairman summed up with great clearness and impartiality, the jury returning a verdict of not guilty.

1849 25th March Worcester Journal: **Death and Destitution:** An inquest was held at the Pheasant Inn, Welland on the body of a female child, whose parents name was Allen. It appears a neighbour, Mrs Wheeler, on hearing groans from the Allen's house went to see if she could help but Mrs Allen said she was confined and the child was born dead. Mrs Wheeler sent for Police Constable Page and on his direction, she went upstairs and brought down the body of a child, which she had found lying, wrapped in a rag on the boards behind the door of the room in which the woman had been confined, its legs being tied together with a piece of list. The head and face being very bruised, looking as if it had been pressed by hands.

Mr Marsh, surgeon of Upton said he believed the child had lived for a moment and that death had occurred by pressure from hands or having been lain on. He had been attending to her since her confinement and when he asked her about the child's death, she said she swooned away and when she came too, she, "found the child under everything." Sarah All, sister of the deceased said she attended her mother in confinement and everything was ready for the birth. That morning her mother was in a lot of pain so she went to make some tea, when she returned, she was told it was all over and her mother showed her the child which was dead. She had

heard no cries of a child. There was no bedstead in the room, the bed being straw in some bagging, her mother was dressed and confined on the bare floor with no bed clothes of any kind. She had been sleeping with her mother, they undressed but had no covering other than the clothes they wore during the day. Her father slept in another room. The jury returned the following verdict: the deceased Allen was suffocated and died from want of proper assistance at her birth.

1849 5th April Worcester Journal: Dudley: William Allen, 40, labourer was charged with **stealing a bucket,** the property of William Holyhead, on 21st December, at Hanley Castle, Police Constable John Page deposed to seeing the bucket in question at the prisoner's house and suspecting he had stolen it, returned the following day to fetch it but it had gone. It was subsequently found in a field belonging to the prisoner's employer, Mr Cole, where it was ploughed up by Mr Cole jnr. The bucket was produced in court and identified by the prosecutor. Fined guilty, six weeks imprisonment, one of which to be in solitary confinement.

1849 11th April John Page was **promoted** to Sergeant no 003 and posted to Dudley

1849 9th May Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley Petty Sessions: George Walker, beer seller, Dudley was charged with **keeping his house open** for the sale of beer at an illegal hour on 25th April. John Page, policeman proved the case. Fined 16s including costs.

1849 29th August Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: Charge of **killing a horse**. Joseph Holloway, Joseph Chater and John Southall were charged with feloniously killing a horse, property of Mr Eli Priest of Netherton on the night of the 17th.The horse was put in a field at Dixon's Green that night but the following morning Mr Priest was informed it was dead by Holloway and Southall who expressed a wish to buy the carcass. Holloway, on being apprehended, without any threat or promise made a long statement to PS Page, which the officer took down in writing, and it was to the effect that he accompanied the other two prisoners to the field where the horse was grazing, when Southall, who on the road picked up an iron bar at Haden's Whimsey, struck the animal twice with it, which knocked it down and the horse fell over the wall of the field. This led to the apprehension of the other two prisoners by PS Page and on the officer charging them. Southall said he was innocent but Chater made a statement admitting he was with Holloway when a strange man he did not know, knocked the horse down with piece of iron and it fell over the wall. Southall endeavoured to prove an alibi but all three prisoners were committed. This was the third horse which had been similarly destroyed in the same field within the past few weeks.

1849 12th September Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: **Stealing Rabbits**. Samuel Edwards, Henry Edwards and William Perkins were committed for trial on a charge of stealing four rabbits and a brass padlock on the 5th inst., the property of Mr John W Pain of Tower Street. The prisoners were apprehended by P S John Page in a beer house in Hall Street on the day of the robbery, while in the act of offering for sale two of the rabbits. On searching the prisoners, the officer found the lock on Perkins, and the other two rabbits were discovered in Edward's house.

1849 3rd October Dudley: **Stealing iron from a boat:** Two young boatmen, Joseph Lockley and William Riley were charged with stealing 5cwt of pig iron from a boat at Tipton on 22nd inst., the property of Messrs Backwell, iron masters. The boat had been lying in a pound at Tipton, on its way to the Gospel Oak Works, and the iron taken from it was found in a boat Lockley was taking through Tipton locks at about one o'clock at night when he was discovered by Thomas Cockin, the lock keeper. Lockley took to his heels leaving his shoes in the boat which along with the iron was identified when he was apprehended by Police Sergeant Page. He was committed to Stafford for trial. The other prisoner Riley had been apprehended by Cockin on suspicion of being concerned in the robbery, was discharged due to insufficient evidence, however when the bench learnt there was another similar charge against Lockley in which Riley was implicated, they ordered him to be detained until the next day when the witnesses in the second case were ordered to attend.

1849 5th December Worcestershire Chronicle: Dudley: **Breach of the Peace**: Joseph Hickman was called upon to find a surety to keep the peace, in default, 21days imprisonment., on the complaint of Police Sergeant John Page, for being drunk and pugnacious the previous night.

1849 12th December Worcestershire Chronicle: The County Police. By a recent arrangement Police Sergeant Cook, who has been for a considerable time stationed at Wolverley, has been removed to Dudley and **Sergeant Page of Dudley has taken his place**.

1850 6th February Worcestershire Chronicle: Special Sessions: The value of a turnip! John Cantrill., a carpet weaver appeared without summons to answer a charge of **turnip stealing**. PC (sic) John Page said he had been instructed by Mr Thomas Boucher of Wolverley to watch a turnip field of his and take the first offender into custody. On 30th January he saw the defendant and three others going through it on the footpath. Cantrill drew up a turnip, then threw it down and drew up another which he began to peel. Another man drew up a turnip and the witness came forward and took them into custody. PC (sic) Page was asked whether he thought they had come to rob the field or merely picked a turnip to eat. He said he thought that they did not come to steal. The defendant said he was out of work, had been on a long walk and was very hungry, he did not know there was harm in taking the turnip, had come when requested and would not offend again. He was ordered to pay 2s expenses.

1850 19th September - Worcester Journal: Pugilism: John Breeze, Richard Child, James Smith, Henry Bourne, Joseph Smith, John Edwards, William Bartle and Thomas Oliver were before the County Police Court for causing a **breach of the peace**, all pleading not guilty. Police Sergeant Page of Wolverley stated that acting on information he received on September 2nd he went to Dean's Ford, Chaddesley Corbett and on arrival found nearly 2,000 persons assembled in a field belonging to Mr Pearman. They were witnessing a fight between the defendant Child and another man who he believed to be called Benjamin Farmer. He went to them and told them they must desist from fighting. At the time he was dressed in his police uniform. Several people watching shouted that the fight should not be stopped and Edwards came to him telling him that he should not be insulted and the fight must go on. PS Page told

Breeze he knew him and therefore expected him to help in preserving the peace but Breeze said he knew nothing about it and should do nothing.

Both Breeze and Henry Bourne were keeping the ring, driving back the crowd with sticks. When Child and the person he was fighting were told the fight must cease, Bourne came up with a stick and said something to PS Page that he did not understand. Bartle was not in the ring but in a car on the public road which ran through the field. Oliver was keeping the ring and James Smith was on horseback riding around the ring. PS Page was quite sure as to the identity of all defendants. The combatants fought two rounds whilst he was present and he had summoned as many of the parties as he knew but he was not in a position to prove this was a prize fight. P S Page was closely questioned about several parts of his evidence, and eventually exonerated from all the blame which certain statements received imputed to him, these statements evidently being incorrect. Bartle was acquitted, and the others were required to enter into their own recognizances with sufficient sureties to keep the peace for six months and pay costs of 11s 6d each.

The next week several men were charged with being present at this fight, the principal witness being one of the earlier accused John Edwards, Edwards was not however a voluntary witness, but he had been summoned to give evidence. Some of the men were acquitted and others bound over with sureties to keep the peace for six months. The chairman said in consequence of some suspicion having been thrown on PS Page the previous week, nothing had transpired to show he was actuated by any but the best motives, and since the fight his conduct had been judicious and impartial. He however believed there was a blame somewhere because it was impossible to suppose a fight lasting an hour with 2000 people could not take place without the police knowledge, the police being the only people who knew nothing about it. This seemed to be a problem with co-operation between the County and Borough Police.

1850 24th October Worcester Journal: Kidderminster Watch Committee were advised of the opinion of the Magistrate in the above case regarding the blame for the incident must lie with the lack of unity of action between the County and Borough Police. The meeting was to see that if on examination it appeared blame was attached to the police for their conduct in regard to the fight they might be reprehended by competent authority, or they might be certified as having discharged their duty satisfactorily. Intelligence of the fight had been given by Inspector Peters of the Borough Police to PS Page of Worcestershire Constabulary the night before the fight and early the next morning PC Haigh was sent to inform PS Page of the direction the men were taking although it was uncertain where the fight would take place.

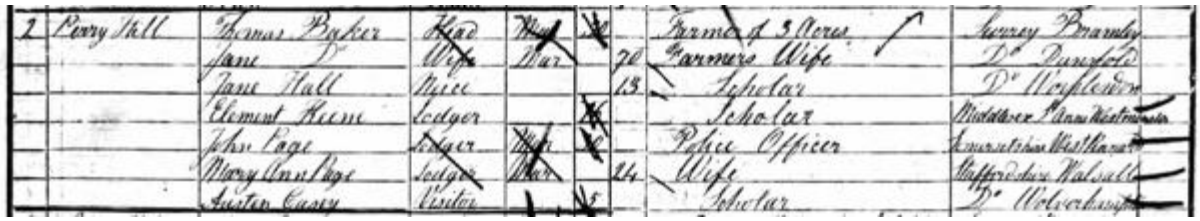
After discussion the committee decided no blame whatsoever be attached to any member of the Borough Police as every information and assistance had been given to the County Constabulary, the conduct of the borough police having been, at all times without exception highly praiseworthy. They were also made aware that Evesham was to be consolidated into the county force and they were hoping other boroughs would follow suit but after the fullest consideration they were of the opinion it would be highly disadvantageous to the borough.

1851 15th January John Page resigns from Worcestershire Police.

1851 18th January John Page **joins Surrey Constabulary** one of the originals 65

1851 July 27: Constable **John Page** 1st Class Constable and acting inspector at Chobham is **appointed inspector** at twenty-three shillings a week. (Note – there were no sergeants)[122]

1851 Census for Perry Hill, Worplesdon, Guildford lists John Page, a police officer and his wife Mary Ann as lodgers to Mr Baker, a farmer.



1851 From 1st August Constable John Page 1st Class Constable and acting inspector at Chobham **appointed inspector** at twenty-three shillings a week.

1852 May 13: Cheltenham Chronicle 13: Melancholic Case of self-destruction. The body of a woman was found in the Avon in Birmingham. She was identified as a cook Sarah Mills and an inquest held. In evidence the deceased was described as **depressed by the conduct of John Page** formerly of the police force in Kidderminster but now inspector of the Surrey Constabulary stationed at Chobham who it was said seduced then deserted her. In a letter written by the deceased she expresses a warning to all young people saying she was led astray then abandoned when three months' gone. There were other letters written by the deceased to Page which were returned to Superintendent Harris. There was a **verdict of temporary insanity. Note:** Given the harshness of the discipline code and its rigorous enforcement it seems that Mr Page was lucky not to be sacked for these matters. Unless of course it was so very common!

1852 September 18: Morning Post. Affray Necropolis Woking: Affray with the A Division (Metropolitan Police) of Police: Soon after the special train had left Woking station, conveying to town the directors and friends of the National Necropolis Company, and just as it was getting dusk, a large body of idle and dissolute characters who invest the neighbourhoods of Woking and Chertsey assembled on the common and began to break down the hurdles surrounding the tent erected for the occasion. The Metropolitan Police had throughout the day used the utmost forbearance towards a host of supposed claimants to the common; just, however, as the police were departing several of the ringleaders advanced. Inspector Field who was on the spot (by order of the commissioner of police) advised the riotous lot to keep back; he had no sooner said so than a fellow dealt him a desperate blow with a stick, which he cleverly parried. His stick was however, severed in two.

[122] Surrey Constabulary General Orders Book 1 1851-

Inspector Dirking, with his men, formed a line, and assisted by Inspector Page of the Surrey Constabulary, they drew their staves amid a shower of glass bottles and other missiles, speedily putting to rout this lawless crew, and restoring order on the common just as the evening closed in. It is right that the people in the is part of the country should know that those who have been in possession of their tenements for only ten years the directors view as freeholders and that a compensation will be given on a just and fair scale. This common is utterly valueless, except for the purposes of a cemetery, and it is one of the means by which we shall get rid of intramural burials.[123]

1853 12th January John Page is temporarily appointed in charge of Dorking Division, Superintendent Casey having resigned.

1853 1st April John Page is appointed Superintendent at £80 per annum.

GO 96 May 25, 1853 Radley, Everett and Page suspended for being absent without leave on the day of the Derby

1853 July: Newdigate: PC **Horace Henry Coe** was on duty in Newdigate and whilst passing over a footpath leading to Mr Finchley's pheasant preserves, he was met by a man who asked him if he had been out in the storm. He replied in the affirmative when he was immediately afterwards knocked down by two other men who fell on him and with a razor **attempted to murder him** by cutting his throat. They succeeded in inflicting a wound in his neck three quarters of an inch deep and nearly an inch and a half long. They then ransacked his pockets and stole there from a green silk purse containing £1.10s in gold and a quantity of silver after which they dragged him for a distance of fifty feet to a brook where they hurled him leaving him for dead. The poor fellow managed to crawl away and having given information to Mr Page superintendent of police, a search was made for the guilty parties. They have not been apprehended as yet. [124]

1853 September 15: Surrey Sessions before Thomas Puckle Esq., and a Bench of Magistrates. James Ranger a respectable looking man surrendered to take his trial for **embezzleing £5 and other monies,** the property of his master, Mr Kerrich the treasurer for the county of Surrey. The prosecutor resided at Arnolds near Capel and had a brick field at Ockley where he made bricks, tiles and drain-pipes. The prisoner had been in his employ for seven years and his duties were to make bricks etc., and in the winter to collect coppice wood and cut faggots. He was paid by the day as well as by piece-work. In October last he gave him directions to purchase a quantity of faggots from Mr Cheesman, and he sent his own team to fetch them. His directions were to the prisoner to give Cheesman 4s a hundred for the faggots, provided they were worth it. Shortly after he received them he asked the prisoner how much he had given for them when he replied 4s 6d a hundred. He met Cheesman afterwards and offered to pay him according to

[123] 1852 September 18: Morning Post.
[124] The Globe

what the prisoner had told him when they had some words, and seeing the prisoner, he gave him £5 Bank of England note and told him to go and pay Cheesman for the faggots as he did not wish to have any further words with him on the matter. The amount would be at 4/6d a hundred, £4 16s 9d, and he had never heard that another hundred had been delivered until before the magistrates.

On the 29th June the prisoner came to him for the ususal money to pay the workpeople when he asked him if he had paid Cheesman. He replied that he had not; Cheesman was out and he had promised to call upon him for the money. On the 9th July he again asked him about Cheesman's money; when he said "Oh dear, I'll bring you the bill next time." On the 3 August Mr Page one of the superintendents of the Surrey police called upon him to recive some money, when they had a conversation about the prisoner. On the next day he saw Mr Page again and afterwards the prisoner whom he asked about his going to Australia said he considered him acting exceedingly wrong, after he mentioned to him about a fortnight's notice whenever he wanted to leave. The prisoner said " You will find everything right and straight. I will go home and make it all out and let you have the account to-night if you like." In the course of the next day he went down to the brick-field when he saw the prisoner with some books before him, and he arranged to meet witness the next morning.

Instead of his coming he sent one of the men named Jelly with an account bringing him in debt. The prisoner had charged in that for making 200,100 bricks - all that were made amounted to 141,000. Mr Kerrich after getting the account from Jelly he went to Dorking and took out a warrant for the prisoner's apprehension, the prisoner was taken before the magistrates and committed to prison. ------ Mr John Page superintendent of police at Dorking said on the 5th August he met the prisoner at Dorking and asked him if he had settled with Mr Kerrich. He replied "Oh yes, I have delivered my account and everything is settled and comfortable." Witness then told him that that he understood he was going to Australia when he said he was not aware of that. ---- At half past nine the same day he saw him in custody when he said he had entered into an agreement to go to Australia at £3 12s his passage paid, and £20 in his pocket. Other evidence was given and the jury after consulting near half an hour returned a verdict of guilty.

There were six other charges but Mr Kerrich did not wish them to be proceeded with and he asked for the mercy of the court on account of his previous good conduct. The Chairman said that that if the other cases had been proceeded with and the prosecutor had not so strongly recommended him to mercy, most likely the Court would have been compelled to transport him for a long time. However, taking his previous good conduct into consideration he should sentence him to six months hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction.[125]

1853 1st October Portsmouth Times and Naval Gazette: Ryde: Mary Custance Gilbert alias Parry was brought up to be handed over to Supetintendent John Page, of The Surrrey Constabulary, under a warrant of the magistrates of Surrey for **obtaining goods under false**

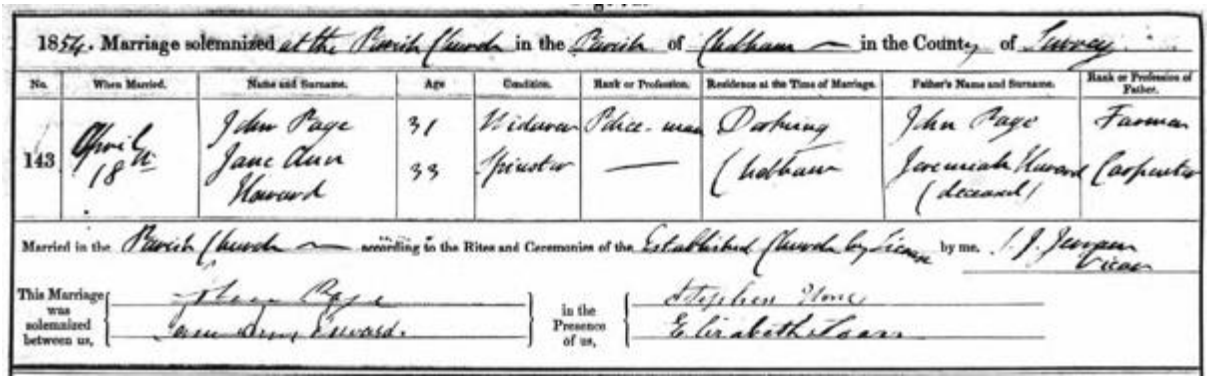
[125] The Standard (London, England), Thursday, September 15, 1853

pretencs at Dorking. She was apprehended at Clematis Cottage, West Street, where she has been carrying oon to a great extent, as we hear several tradesmen are sufferers to a considerable amount.

1854 2nd January Superintendent Page's **salary is raised** to £85 per annum.

1854 20th January Mary Ann (Maryan) Page is **buried** at Dorking St Martin, her residence given as South Street and age as 26years.

1854 9th May Sussex Advertiser: Marriage: Page- Howard: April 18th at Chobham , by the Rev Mr Jerram, Mr John Page , superintendent of the constabulary police, Dorking to Miss Jane Ann Howard of Chobham.



1854. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of Chobham in the County of Surrey

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
143	April 6th 18	John Page Jane Ann Howard	31 33	Widower Spinster	Police-man —	Dorking Chobham	John Page Jeremiah Howard (deceased)	Farmer Carpenter

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by Licence by me, J. J. Jerram Curate

This Marriage was solemnized between us, John Page, Jane Ann Howard. in the Presence of us, Stephen Howe, Elizabeth Howe.

Funeral 1855 Inspector William Donaldson

On the following Friday, Inspector Donaldson was buried at St Bartholomew's Church. Whatever the neglect of future generations might be, the memory of his bravery was still fresh in the minds of the townspeople and his colleagues, and they united to give him a hero's funeral.

The Chief Constable was unable to attend, but most of his senior officers were there. Apart from the family mourners the coffin was followed by four of the five Divisional Superintendents, namely, Messrs Parr (Guildford), Burridge (Godalming), Everett (Farnham), and **Page (Dorking).** Then came Inspectors Frost and Murtell. Behind them marched a column of thirty-two constables, all wearing ceremonial mourning sashes. Following the police contingent came some fifty of the principal inhabitants, in procession, and behind them came all the townspeople who were not already lining the route to see the cortege pass. The shops of the town remained closed during the day, as a final tribute of respect and sympathy. At the Parish Church the Rector, the Reverend Hesse, was waiting to perform the burial service. In the Burial Register the event is recorded without any comment. 'No.892. William Donaldson, of Haslemere, aged forty-seven August 3rd 1855'. The Inspector's grave is not included in the list compiled at the close of the nineteenth century, and it is assumed that either no permanent memorial was erected, or that it was removed when the church was rebuilt in the eighteen-seventies.

A public subscription was begun on behalf of the late Inspector's family, and later a petition was sent to the Home Secretary asking that his widow might receive a pension. At Dorking, where the Donaldsons were still remembered, **Superintendent Page** opened a separate appeal fund. Later in the year a public meeting resolved to invest the sum collected in Government Bonds, and to pay the interest to Mrs Donaldson during her lifetime, and after her death to share out the capital sum amongst the children.

1856 March 11: Fatal accident South-Eastern Railway: Inquest Guy's Hospital on the body of Charles Frederick Baker aged 31 a fireman employed by South-Eastern railway who lost his life in the following manner. Superintendent John Page Surrey Constabulary on Sunday was standing on the bridge of the dock near Box-hill station when he saw some empty trucks proceeding down the incline of the line. The deceased was in front of the engine with a chain in his hand and after he had run about 100 yards he fell down. One of his feet was nearly cut off and blood streamed out of his mouth. Wilson Bates the engine driver said they left Red Hill with a train of empty cattle trucks. Having to leave six of them at Dorking the porter unhooked them at which time the locomotive was at the head of the train. Witness shunted the six carriages across, when he stopped opposite, and asked for the towrope to take them into the siding. The father of the deceased said his son told him that the trucks became unhooked when he slipped under the engine. Jury verdict of accidental death after Baker died of inflammation of the lungs.[126] [127]

1856 April 15 Surrey Quarter Sessions: William Leslie, 17, a tailor, pleaded guilty to **stealing at Mickleham** two silk handkerchiefs and other articles the property of Charles Pullen. Superintendent Page proved a former summary conviction and the prisoner was sent to prison for six months hard labour[128]

1856 May 28 Howard John Page was baptised at Dorking, St Martin, his parents were John, Superintendent of Police and Jane Ann. Their address being given as the Police Station.

1856 24th October Superintendent **Page's salary** is raised to £90 per annum.

1857 February 18: Embezzlement: James Tonkins a youth in the employ of Mr Dibley, draper, was charged before a **Dorking** magistrate charged with **embezzling** 5s 4d from his employer. A customer paid for goods and a receipt given but the prisoner kept the money. Superintendent Page proved taking the youth into custody when he confessed and was very sorry for it. Committed for trial at the next quarter sessions.[129]

1857 May 2: Epsom Magistrates: Thomas Sanders, grocer of **Ashtead** summoned by Inspector (sic) Page Surrey Constabulary Dorking with having **light weights** was fined 1s and

[126] 1856 March 11: Kentish Gazette
[127] 1856 March 11: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[128] 1856 April 15: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[129] 1857 February 21: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

1s 6d costs.[130] This was one of numerous cases brought before the magistrates by Superintendent Page whilst he was Inspector for weights and measures at Dorking.

1857 June 15: Dorking Magistrates at the Red Lion: James Bristow who was remanded last Saturday for uttering a **counterfeit florin** was placed before the court. Superintendent Page said he had made a great many enquiries but had not been successful in finding anyone who had received a counterfeit coin from the prisoner. The prisoner was discharged but told he could be brought up again on the same charge if more evidence came to light. [131] **1857 20th June Sussex Express – Dorking Magistrates**: At the Red Lion: James Bristow who was remanded last Saturday for **uttering a counterfeit florin** was placed before the court. Superintendent Page said he had made a great many enquiries but had not been successful in finding anyone who had received a counterfeit coin from the prisoner. The prisoner was discharged but told he could be brought up again on the same charge if more evidence came to light.

1857 August 8: Summer Assizes: Charge of Housebreaking at Dorking: James Bristow, 30, bricklayer was charged with burglary in the house of Thomas Ede at Dorking and stealing a quantity of tobacco and about 10s in money. About 5am on 27 July Thomas Ede a baker found his shop, which is attached to his house, broken into. Superintendent John Page Surrey Constabulary took the prisoner into custody and found some tobacco on him and was told that he had hidden some coppers in the churchyard so his mother would not find them. **PC John Sleigh**, Surrey Constabulary saw the defendant close to the shop and knowing him a bad character watched him. **His Lordship: "You have no right to say that; if you ever repeat such a piece of impertinence, insolence and injustice, you will be punished, and very severely to."** In summing up his Lordship entreated the jury to dismiss from their minds the remarks of the policeman and passed some strong censures to his conduct. He went through the evidence at some length and the jury acquitted the prisoner.[132]

1857 October 12: Charged with child murder: Dorking: Assizes Kingston[133]: A workingman discovered the body of a child wrapped in calico in a field near Dorking. PC Sleigh Surrey Constabulary on the 14th of October was taken to a field where the body of the child was. On examination the child was found to be full term, female child, who had been healthy. The child was quite naked and he found a cut on the left side of the neck and he found the head was quite soft, all in a pulp.

For a number of days Superintendent Page made enquiries, which led him to the house of Mr Able where he spoke to a servant who had been there some years. She soon admitted that she had given birth on the 12 October in her bedroom and the child had made little noise. The baby was put in a box and the following Tuesday it was taken to where the baby was found. Eliza Brooker, 23, admitted cutting the baby's throat and produced a knife for the superintendent Mr

[130] 1857 May 2 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[131] 1857 June 20: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[132] 1857 August 8 Surrey Comet Kingston, Richmond and Epsom Gazette
[133] Daily News (London, England), Monday, March 23, 1857

Page on which there was no trace of blood. Brooker was arrested and at the police station a Mrs Voyce was employed to sit with her. Brooker said that she had killed her baby when the family were at dinner and it had made a noise. She ran the knife across the throat and hit the baby's head on the box. A surgeon who examined the child said had the child been born alive the injury to the skull would have caused her death. Great mention was made of the lack of proof that the child was born alive and that the statements of a distressed woman was the only evidence for murder. The jury found her not guilty of murder but guilty of concealment of birth and sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour.[134]

1857 November 21: Epsom Magistrates: James Jackson beer shop keeper of Leatherhead was found by Superintendent Page to have two half pint measures a quarter of a gill **deficient in each.** A fine of 12s including costs

1858 January 15 Establishment[135]

Surrey County Constabulary.

Division.	Rank of Officer.	Name.	Address.	Force.
Head Quarters	Chief Const	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
"	Sup & Sec.	Mr. James W. Parr	Guildford	46 men
"	Inspector	Mr. T. H. Glamorgan	Witley	
"	Inspector	Mr. Alfred H. Bungard	Guildford	
"	Inspector	Mr. George Newland	Ash, near Camp	
Chertsey Div.	Superinten.	Mr. W. H. Biddelcombe	Chertsey	21 men
"	Inspector	Mr. George B. Whenham	Walton-upon-T.	
Farnham Div.	Superinten.	Mr. Charles Hollington	Farnham	17 men
"	Inspector	Mr. Edwin C. Moore	York Tn. Frimley	
Dorking Div.	Superinten.	Mr. John Page	Dorking	14 men
"	Inspector	Mr. John H. Law	Leatherhead	
Reigate Div.	Superinten.	Mr. Charles H. Coward	Reigate	14 men
Godstone Div.	Superinten.	Mr. James Martell	Godstone	11 men
			Total strength	123 "

N.B. The Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective districts.

1858 8th May: Police Gazette: Between the hours of 10pm and 6am on the 25th instant the house of William Woods at Box Hill in the parish of Dorking was **broken into** and the following property stolen: a tablecloth with a stain on it, about 4lbs of uncooked beef, two flag baskets, a razor and a gallon stone jar. Information to be given to Superintendent Page, Surrey Constabulary Dorking: Bow Street May 28

1858 19th May, Frank Page was **baptised** at Dorking, his parents were John and Jane Anne Page

1859 1st January West Surrey Times: Dorking: Mr Superintendent Page is listed as **Inspector of Lamps.**

[134] 1857 October 28: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[135] 5 January 1858 South Eastern Gazette

1859 5th March Sussex Agricultural Express – Dorking- Stealing Trees- Thomas Jones appeared in custody of Mr Superintendent Page, by whom he had been apprehended on Sunday, on the Wescott Road, to answer the charge of stealing 15 young yew sticks, growing on Mickleham Downs, to the value of 10s, and belonging to the Misses Talbot, as Ladies of Mickleham Manor. James Steer, gamekeeper to Mr John Roffey, said – On the 10th of December he saw Jones and another man on the downs, trimming the sticks produced. He Caught Jones and said he must go with him, and they both fell down, when Jones threatened to use the knife he had open in his hand. Whilst the witness stooped down to pick up his hat, Jones and the other man ran away and escaped, leaving the sticks behind. The defendant denied cutting the sticks produced by the witness. He was fined £2 10s, penalty and damages and 14s 6d costs, and in default committed to the House of Correction for two months hard labour.

1859 12th March West Surrey Times: **Dorking Licensing meeting:** The chairman read the report of Superintendent Page, in which he said he had no complaint to make against any house in the district but one, the Rose and Crown West Street. He referred to an occurrence there November last, when a prostitute named Strudwick, was found there in bed, and given into custody by the landlady, but she was later discharged on its being ascertained that she had been clandestinely admitted by a servant, a relation of hers, and who was still kept as a servant. After some conversation, Mrs Croucher, the landlady of the house was questioned on the matter, when Dr Gordon, the magistrate before whom Strudwick was taken, said he directed Mr Page to bring the subject before the Bench. It was decided Mrs Croucher should be granted a license, the Chairman saying they had nothing to do with the publican's servants.

1859 30th April West Surrey Times : Dorking: William Rowland, a gypsy was charged with **gambling at Punch Bowl Fair.** The game at which the prisoner presided, though apparently one of chance, was a certain source of gain to himself. By a cunning contrivance this nefarious gamester was enabled secretly to stop his wheel of fortune at any spot of the table he pleased, thus fleecing the poor little fellows who played with him of their pence and half pence without mercy. We are glad however that through the vigilance of Superintendent Page the cheat was discovered and the fellow brought to justice. He was very properly sentenced to three month's imprisonment.

1859 December 13: Sussex Advertiser Dorking: **Damage and Robbery:** John Smith, 16 years, son of "Tinker Smith", an itinerant scissor grinder, who has for some years lived in a cart at the Surrey Yeoman, whence he takes his daily rounds in search of jobs, appeared in custody of P C John Sleigh, who charge the prisoner with stealing an iron hook from the shed of Mr Dibley, in the meadow at the back of the High Street. Sleigh said, while going along the passage to Ram Alley last Saturday afternoon, he heard noise, as if someone was breaking glass, and ongoing towards the shed saw the prisoner and three other boys, trying to wrench the staple off the door with a knife. He captured Smith and found the hook in his pocket, which was missing from the shed door. While proceeding to the police station the prisoner took advantage of the constable getting over a fence and made off across the fields to the Glory Wood, where he eluded the pursuit of the constable. Mr Superintendent Page, succeeded in capturing him yesterday morning at the yard where his father lives, after a short run, the prisoner for a second

time trying to give the constable the slip. Smith was remanded until the next Saturday to be tried at the Criminal Petty Sessions.

1860 March 10: West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Buying a Rifleman's clothes**: William Peters, a marine store dealer, was summoned by Mr Page, superintendent of police, for having in his possession a great coat and tunic belonging to a rifleman who had deserted. From the evidence it appeared the rifleman, Frederick Lounder, who deserted on 9th February, from Dorking where he was engaged on recruiting services, was reported to have sold his clothes. Mr Page went to the defendant's shop to make enquiries and saw Mrs Peters, who said she had bought the coat and nothing else. While there the defendant came in and admitted buying the coat. Mr Page then sent and had the deserter apprehended, he informed Mr Page he had sold his coat to Peters, who gave it up to him and the tunic also. The tunic being in the shop and the coat in the back parlour. The defendant gave 3s 6d for them, but from the evidence of Sergeant Jordan, the coat was worth 15s and the tunic 6s – the deserter only being in the army four months and as a rifleman he was entitled after next April to the tunic but the great coat was always government property.

Mr White who appeared for the defendant, cross examined the witnesses and made an appeal to the magistrates on behalf of the defendant, who he said, acted 'bona fide' in purchasing the soldier's clothes, knowing him well and believing he was entitled to sell them, giving them up as soon as asked, and also giving every information to the police. He strongly urged that the defendant had given a faithful and satisfactory account of how he possessed them, not being in any way instrumental in the desertion so he trusted the magistrates would dismiss the charge. After conferring the Bench fined the defendant £5, treble the value of the clothes and 13s 6d costs to be paid within a fortnight. The chairman observing ignorance of the law was not an excuse.

1860 2nd June West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Charge of stealing money:** William King, of fighting notoriety was brought up by Mr Page superintendent of Police, to answer a charge preferred against him by James Stonestreet, for stealing from him a sovereign, the previous day at Brockham. The magistrate was informed that Stonestreet had been paid the sovereign by some of King's family and that Mr Stonestreet did not wish to appear against King with whom he had been drinking, as he thought King did not intend to 'do him out of his money.' Mr Page said that was a very different story to that which Mr Stonestreet told him when King was given into custody. He then appeared determined to have him locked up and promised to attend to give evidence against him. On searching King, the sovereign was found in a finger of his glove, he said he had only borrowed it and intended to return it. The magistrate discharged King, saying he could not detain him, as there was no evidence against him.

1860 18th September Surrey Gazette: Dorking: **Sudden Death:** We have the painful duty to record the sudden death of Mr Alder, landlord of the Surrey Yeoman public house, which occurred late on Tuesday night last. The deceased had only been landlord of the house a few months, having come from Bromley Common, Kent. It appeared Mrs Alder was absent on a visit to Bromley to fetch home her only daughter, leaving the deceased home alone. After the

house was closed for the night- between 11 and 12 o'clock-and all sleeping in the house were gone to bed, it seems the deceased fastened up all as usual for the night and turned out the gas and lit his bedroom candle, which was found next morning all burnt. He was then probably seized with a fit and fell to the floor in the bar parlour and died. The first discovery being made by a man lodging in the house, who came down a little before six in the morning, and on looking at the clock in the room was shocked at seeing the lifeless body of the deceased on the ground with one hand gripping the leg of the table.

Assistance was soon obtained and Mr Superintendent Page quickly attended to give the necessary directions for the removal of the corpse. The deceased, who was a man of full habits, is believed to have been in tolerable good health and gave no previous indications of his demise. He was near 50 years of age and gave no previous indications of his sudden demise.

1860 October 20: Kingston Quarter Sessions: Elizabeth Scotman alias Wallis was indicted for **stealing a purse** and £4 12s 6d from the person of William Elsey in **Dorking.** Elsey met the woman in a pub in Dorking then they went off and visited a number of establishments in the town together. In the Surrey Yeoman Elsey fell asleep and when he woke the lady and his money had gone. Superintendent Page apprehended the prisoner on the Saturday night when she denied the offence. On the following morning the prisoner told him if he went to her mother's house, he would find some of the money under the bed the remainder had been spent on clothes. The jury acquitted the prisoner and the money was ordered to be given up to Elsey.[136] **Note:** That seems to be a very perverse decision – not guilty but do not do it again!

1860 20th October West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Counterfeit Bank Notes:** A caution. We have been favoured during the present week, by Superintendent Page, with the sight of a spurious £10 Bank of England note, received by the seller of a horse at one of the recent fairs. The counterfeit is numbered 'AD 70398', bears the date 'August 13th1860' and has the signature of 'W P Gattie'. The execution of the note is of the most-clever description, the copying of the text, signature, and pictorial representations being perfect. The paper and water mark only fail in completing the deception, but even they are so near an imitation of the genuine as to require an experienced eye to detect the forgery. The danger of taking such a cleverly executed counterfeit is so great that we say to all whom it may concern – beware!

1861 5th January Sussex Agricultural Express: Epsom: **Unjust Weights** at Leatherhead-James Bullen, retailer of coals at Leatherhead Railway Station was charged by Superintendent Page, inspector of weights and measures for Dorking, Leatherhead, etc, with having in his possession two 56lb weights, which were light and unjust. Mr Bullen in his own defence, said he did not know that the weights were his property. They were found on the premises of the Railway Company and were as likely to be the property of others who sold coals at Leatherhead Station as his. Mr Page deposed that on 21st inst., he visited the coal yard of the defendant, at the railway station, and there found two 56lb weights, one being two ounces deficient and the other one and a half ounces against the purchaser. Mr Bullen's servant man told the inspector

[136] 1860 October 20 Surrey Comet

the weights were his master's property. The defendant said that he did not know if the weights were his but he may have used them. He was told if the public purchase your coals with these weights, they will not get what they pay for so they must be protected. Mr Page said the defendant had been fined 15s on the 24th of September, for having a defective scale. The defendant was ordered to pay 22s and costs, being told the sum was lower than it could be because the weights would be forfeited. The fine was paid.

1861 8th January Surrey Gazette: East Sussex Epiphany Sessions: Simon Carter, 47years, was indicted for **stealing a mare**, value £30, the property of Joseph Kline at Mayfield, on 23rd October, and pleaded not guilty. Joseph Kline, a farmer at Wadhurst, said he had a dark brown horse, which was missing on 24th October. That found in the prisoner's possession was the same. James Hall, carter, in the service of Mr Kline, deposed to having turned the mare into the yard about nine o'clock on the evening of 23rd October, and on going to the yard the following morning, the animal was gone. He was shown the mare on the following Sunday, by the Police, and although the tip of its tail was cut off, he had no doubt as to the animal's identity. John Page, Superintendent at Dorking, Surrey, stated he had met the prisoner about four miles from Dorking, about three o'clock in the afternoon of 24th October, with the mare in question. He took the prisoner into custody. James Bennett, Superintendent of police at Uckfield, deposed to having received the prisoner from Inspector (sic) Page. He had gone to Withyham and made enquires as to the sale of the mare, the prisoner having averred that he had purchased it there from a man, whom he did not know for £12.He could not find any such sale had taken place. The prisoner was found guilty and sentenced to eight months imprisonment.

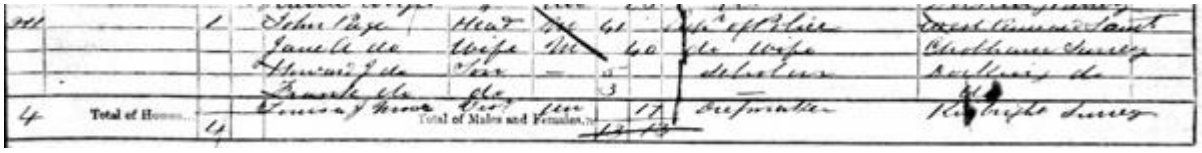
1861 February 2: Kingston County Bench: Burglary at Leatherhead: William Beauchamp alias Walter Willoughby and John Smith were brought up on remand charged with **stealing a copper boiler**, a jar of jam, a goose, a duck, two cloths and a wet chemise. John Constable kept the Royal Oak at Leatherhead. On the night 24 January his house was broken into and the property stolen. Superintendent Page, Surrey Constabulary examined the premises and found footprints, which he covered up and on comparing the boots of the prisoners they corresponded. A **second charge** was also **burglary** at the dwelling house of Edward Worsfold in Leatherhead from where a jacket and six silver teaspoons were stolen. A **third charge** when the defendants with two young girls committed **burglary** in the dwelling house of Charles Charles at **Leatherhead** from where food was stolen. They were committed for trial.

A further charge against Willoughby alone for robbing his father was raised but this was not pursued. For some time, the Surrey Constabulary have been endeavouring to trace the prisoners but although they had used all vigilance, they were unsuccessful and it is probable the prisoners might have eluded justice some time if not altogether they had not been so adroitly captured by **PC Harrison. The officer is deserving of much commendation** for his shrewdness and tact. [137]

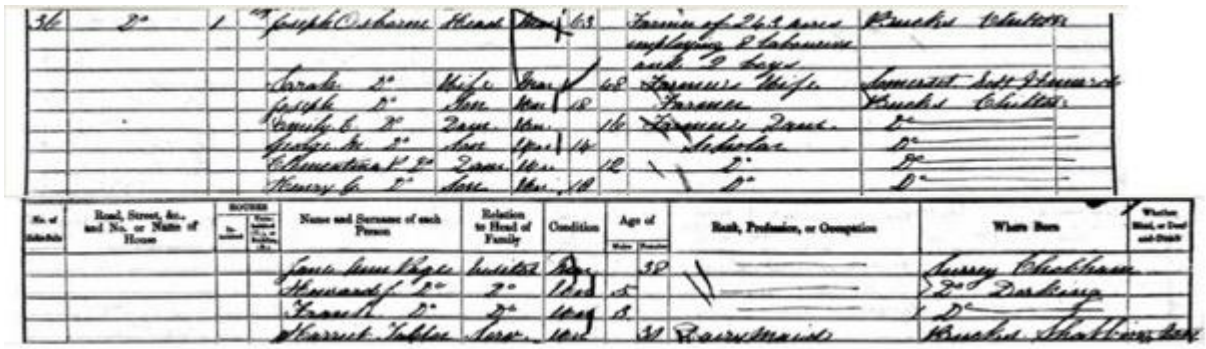
[137] 1862 February 2 Surrey Comet

1861 9th March West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Annual Licencing Committee** meeting. Mr Superintendent Page submitted his annual report, in which he stated that one publican only had been summoned and fined £2 with costs for refusing to admit the police, but against another (the landlord of the Rose and Crown, West Street) he had to complain for harbouring bad characters, after being cautioned, he also stated that a robbery had been committed there by a prostitute who was sent for trial at the Sessions but had been acquitted. Mr Heathfield Young addressed the bench on behalf of the landlord of the Rose and Crown, but the Bench refused to renew his licence, all the others being granted.

1861 Census for South Street Dorking lists John Page, Superintendent of Police, with his wife and two children plus a visitor Louisa Moor. However, Jane Ann., Howard J and Frank Page are also listed in 1861 census at Chilton, Thame Buckinghamshire where they are visiting Joseph Osborne and his family. Sarah Osborne, the wife of Joseph was the sister of John Page.



NB People are often shown twice on the census when away from home visiting. The head of the house puts all his family on the census as it is their usual abode, then the person they are visiting also adds them as they were staying at their house on census night.



1861 7th May Sussex Agricultural Express: Dorking: Wm Stevens was summoned for not **contributing to the maintenance of his son,** an inmate in the Redhill Reformatory. Mr Superintendent Page said he was directed by the Rev Sydney Turner to call upon the defendant to pay 1s a week which he did for a short time and then left off; he was now 16 weeks in arrears. He believed the defendant was able to contribute that sum and asked for an order compelling payment. The defendant said he was unable to pay much, but he ultimately agreed to pay the sum asked, and an order was made accordingly.

1861 11th May Sussex Agricultural Express: Dorking: The Police Force, under Mr Superintendent Page, underwent an **official inspection** by Captain Willis, the government inspector and Captain Hastings, on 2nd inst., the result of which we understand, was in every way satisfactory.

1861 3rd August Sussex Agricultural Express: Dorking: **Deserter:** George Smith, a young man was taken before the magistrate by Superintendent Page, charged with being a deserter from the Royal Marines. It appeared that as Mr Page was returning from Reigate, on Monday morning, he met the prisoner near Betchworth, and from his gait and appearance suspected him to be a deserter., he stopped and enquired if he was. At first the prisoner denied it, but on looking at his boots and clothes his military number was visible on them. He was taken into custody and then admitted he had deserted and had left Portsmouth on Saturday morning without leave. He was committed to the county gaol to await orders from Portsmouth.

1861 21st September West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Seizures for Church Rates:** Yesterday morning, Superintendent Page, armed with a warrant bearing the signatures of J Labouchere, C F Robinson and C Calvert, justices of the peace, entered the dwelling of the Rev J O Whitehouse, and took from him the following articles for a Church Rate made last year, amounting to 5s 3d, and expenses of 15s 6d -an eight-day clock, a passage lamp, a portrait of Mr Edward Miall and another of the Rev T Binney. A visit was afterwards paid by the same officer to the shop of Mr T Matches, chemist, the seizure in his case being for a Church Rate of 3s 6d and expenses of 15s 6d. The articles taken from Mr Matches shop, comprised a quantity of tea and coffee, and sundry bottles of pomade, capers and other pickles. The sale of articles seized from both dwelling, will, we understand take place on Wednesday next. The matter, however, is not likely to end there, as a determination exists to institute legal proceedings against all concerned in this act of spoliation. Donations of £10, £5, and sums of smaller amounts are already promised towards action in the Court of Queen's Bench, and there is no doubt an appeal to the friends of religious liberty generally for pecuniary assistance, would be promptly and liberally responded to.

1862 7th June West Surrey Time: The following letter was sent to the editor-
Sir – Your editorial remarks at the foot of the paragraph on the **Rose Hill robbery,** inserted in last week's paper, lead me to a few observations. As an act of justice to the Dorking Police, it ought to be known that during the last ten years, i.e., since the post of superintendent has been held by Mr Page, the chief officer of the Dorking District, there has been a gratifying diminution of crime. As an illustration of this fact, it may be mentioned, that with the exception of the burglary referred to, no robbery of any kind has been committed during the last six weeks throughout the district, an area I believe, including seventeen parishes. So quiet, indeed, and so orderly in general has our town become, as to challenge a comparison with any other in the kingdom.

I am quite aware that several causes beside that of police influence have contributed to this. The temperance movement, extended education, an increased interest in the condition of the poor, their improved social condition, have doubtless each and all had a beneficial operation, and have aided largely in promoting that general good conduct for which our working-class countryman are now deservedly commended.

It is only due to Superintendent Page to state that he was 170 miles distant from home when the Rose Hill robbery was perpetrated, and that the three burglaries alluded to in your foot note

are the only ones committed in the locality since he has superintended the district. It is much regretted, both for the reputation of the police, and on account of the uneasiness produced in the public mind when the perpetrators of the daring crimes are undetected, that in neither of the cases referred to have the criminals been brought to justice. An ugly fact like this is not without its moral to the authorities. The insecurity felt by the public, demands they should appropriate it.

Police Officers as public servants are open to public criticism. A consciousness of this truth, and when needed, its practical illustration by the press, will detract nothing from the performance of their duty. You will, I am sure, concede, however that a class of officers peculiarly exposed to the ill will of the lawless, needs especially to the moral support of the friends of order. The Police, by a judicious and vigilant exercise of their functions will assuredly enjoy the latter.

The letter is signed "Your voluntary contributor." The editor then adds a footnote stating that the 'ugly fact,' however that it appears from this communication is that not one of the perpetrators of the burglaries committed in Superintendent Page's time, has been brought to justice.

No details can be found regarding the Rose Hill Robbery mentioned above.

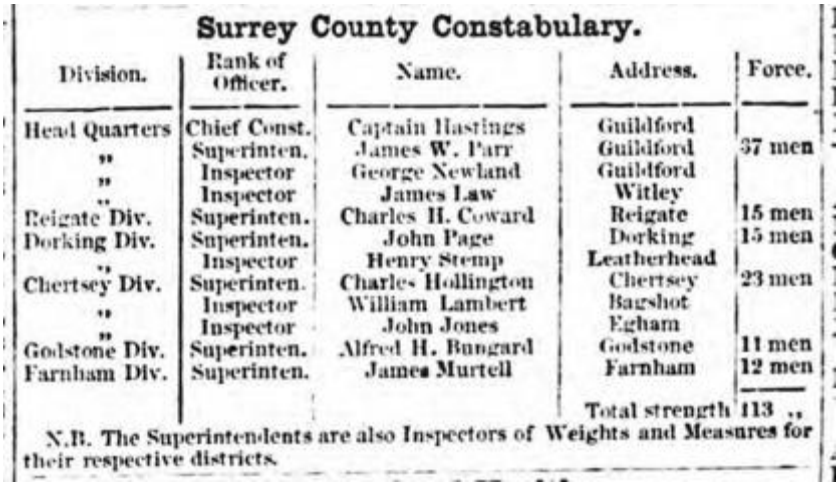
1863 4thApril West Surrey Times: Dorking: **Annual Licensing Committee** meeting: Mr Superintendent Page handed the Chairman his yearly report of the way public houses had been conducted, and it complained of two only - the Old King's Head and the Rose and Crown, both landlords were called, the Chairman reprimanding them and cautioning them that another complaint would mean a loss of licence. All other licences were granted.

1863 7th June Reynolds Newspaper: At Bow Street Police Court last Friday the prisoner charged with **alluring pregnant women from workhouses** who had given the name of James Smith, again appeared before Mr Henry. Mr John Page was examined: I am Superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary residing in Dorking. I know the prisoner perfectly well. His name is Arthur Robert Willoughby Wade. He resides at Dorking and he is adjutant of the 3rd Surrey Rifles. The chief clerk asked the witness to spell the name of the prisoner, upon which the prisoner interposed and spelt it as above, before the remonstrance of his solicitor was understood by him. No other evidence of any importance was given and the prisoner was committed to Newgate for trial on each of the six charges preferred against him.

1863 13th June West Surrey Times: Petty Sessions: The case of P C Caleb Tugwell, charged by Walter Gough with having committed perjury, which was adjourned from the last bench to enable further evidence to be brought against him came up for hearing. The prosecutor was not present and no one appeared on his behalf. The Chairman said the bench had fully investigated the case and they believed Gough wad drunk, and the defendant was innocent of perjury so would leave the court without the slightest stain on his character.

The Charge against Superintendent Page - At the last Bench a summons was obtained by Martha Frost, a witness in the case of Gough and Tugwell, against Supt Page for having assaulted her as she left court. Mr Binns, for the complainant reiterated the statement she made on the last occasion that Mr Page took hold of her arm and told her to go back into the court or go home, and not talk to a man who was witness in the case (the witnesses being ordered out of court). Mr Young, for Mr Page cross examined her. During which she said she was induced to apply for the summons by Dr Napper and Mr Binns. She called two witnesses who corroborated her. Mr Young admitted that Mr Page did as was stated to prevent the girl talking to a man who was to be called as a witness, and he urged that he was justified in doing so in the furtherance of justice but denied an assault had thereby been committed. The Bench, without asking Mr Page to call his witnesses said he was justified in what he did and at once dismissed the summons.

Establishment South Eastern Gazette 6 January 1863



Surrey County Constabulary.

Division.	Rank of Officer.	Name.	Address.	Force.
Head Quarters	Chief Const.	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
"	Superinten.	James W. Parr	Guildford	37 men
"	Inspector	George Newland	Guildford	
"	Inspector	James Law	Witley	
Reigate Div.	Superinten.	Charles H. Coward	Reigate	15 men
Dorking Div.	Superinten.	John Page	Dorking	15 men
"	Inspector	Henry Stemp	Leatherhead	
Chertsey Div.	Superinten.	Charles Hollington	Chertsey	23 men
"	Inspector	William Lambert	Bagshot	
"	Inspector	John Jones	Egham	
Godstone Div.	Superinten.	Alfred H. Bungard	Godstone	11 men
Farnham Div.	Superinten.	James Murtell	Farnham	12 men
			Total strength	113 "

N.B. The Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective districts.

1864 7th May West Surrey Times: Dorking: The Police: On Thursday morning Captain Willis, Government Inspector of Police visited Dorking and **inspected the men** composing the Dorking Division of the County Constabulary, numbering 17, under the command of Superintendent Page. After going through the usual forms, Capt. Willis proceeded to Reigate.

1864 1st October West Surrey Times: Dorking: David Bird aged 22, and George Loydall aged 18, two navvies were charged by Superintendent Page with **attempting to pass a bad half-crown** on the preceding Saturday evening. The prisoners went to the public house kept by Mrs Lucock, and called for a pot of beer, which was taken to them, and they tendered the half-crown in payment. When spoken to, they said they had received the half- crown in change from the landlady. They then left and went to the Tree Tuns where they also called for a pot of beer, and tendered the bad half-crown in payment, stating they had received it there in change for a half sovereign. Superintendent Page was passing at the time and took the prisoners into custody. They were discharged with a caution.

1865 4th September – Several newspapers had the following article from West Surrey Times – **A Gang of Poachers-** A few days since Superintendent Page, accompanied by several members of the county constabulary, paid a visit to some huts which were occupied by navvies, and situated at Stone's Mill, near the estate of Mr Broadwood. The object of the visit was to seize a number of poaching implements, which the denizens of the huts were known to possess, and by this means to break up a formidable gang of poachers, which for some months past infested the neighbourhood. On the approach of the police, the navvies took to their heels, and on searching the huts a great quantity of nets etc were discovered. There was one net, measuring 150 yards in length and 6 yards in depth, and besides this there were sufficient rabbit nets, pigs and other poaching appliances to fill a moderately sized cart. The whole of the things were seized and conveyed to the police station. A gang of poachers with such a supply of materials would very soon take all the game in the district.

1865 11th November: Surrey Advertiser: County Bench: Weights and measures: At a former court, in the case of Miller v Bourn, for **deficient weights and measures**, the question was raised by Mr Grece, as to the legality of the appointment of Superintendent Page, as inspector, who received "fee and reward" for his services contrary to the act. The case was submitted to the late Clerk of the Peace, and he sent his decision that the "objection was untenable, the salary being paid as part of his pay as superintendent of Police. The court then proceeded with the adjourned case. George Bourn, of Merstham, shopkeeper was summoned by Superintendent Page, for not having the necessary weights and scales in his shop, where goods were exposed for sale. The defendant's wife explained she sold bread and sweetmeats and was not aware it was necessary to sell the bread by weight. When told she must have scales, she procured them. Mr Superintendent Page said he asked for a 4lb loaf, and when Mrs Bourn gave it him, he weighed it finding it a quarter of a pound light. Mrs Bourn said she had her bread from Mr Skilton, a baker in Reigate, the defendant was fined 10s plus costs and given a week to pay.

1865 November 25: Murder of Gamekeeper Miller: On Wednesday evening a gamekeeper named Humphrey Miller aged 37, in the service of Mr Charles Randall, **Tillingbourne, near Dorking** was murdered. It appears that three gamekeepers, the deceased, John and William Brooker lived in a house about a quarter of a mile from the place where the murder was committed. Shortly after 8 o'clock on Wednesday night hearing a report of a gun from the direction of a large wood belonging to Mr Randall, the deceased started to ascertain what it was. The other two gamekeepers began to put on their boots telling deceased hey were coming directly. After they had gone about a quarter of a mile and got into the wood, they heard a scream and rushed up. The night being rather dark Brooker passed the deceased without seeing him but John thought he saw something lying on the ground and on their going to see found the deceased on his face and dead. On lifting the body, they found a gunshot wound in his breast. It is supposed that the poachers seeing Miller coming towards them one of them instantly fired at him, as the other two gamekeepers assert that they heard no words pass, although they say they were near enough to hear if any words had passed. Information was sent to Mr Page superintendent of police at Dorking at six o'clock on Thursday morning and he immediately proceeded to the spot. Mr Superintendent Page with one of the police apprehended a man named George Flint at the Black Horse public House, Hookwood Common. On

searching Flint's house, the police found a loaded gun and also a pair of heavy men's boots and leather leggings covered in with mud and still wet, the nails on the boots being said to exactly to correspond with the marks found on the ground near which the murder was committed. The police are still continuing enquiries to apprehend all the gang (which are said to number five) and they are sanguine of success. [138]

1865 November 30: Murder of a gamekeeper at Horley: Humphrey Hayler employed as a gamekeeper at Rickett Wood was murdered by five men who appeared at Reigate Court. Mr Page, Superintendent for the Dorking and Reigate district. Enquiries were made which led to men at Norwood Hill and it was discovered that their boot prints marked exactly those found close to the scene of the murder. At the court when being remanded one of the men said the keeper rushed at him with a scream and grabbed his gun, which was loaded and went off. The men were committed to the next assizes at Kingston. [139]

1866 April 3: Surrey Assizes Kingston: Before the Chief Baron Sire Frederick Pollock: **The charge of murdering a gamekeeper near Dorking:** George Flint 25, John Skeet 22, Francis Skelton 32. George Thornton 25 and Stephen Jordan 21 were indicted for the **murder** of Henry Hayler on 22 November at **Norwood**. Jordan was also charged on an inquisition with the murder of the said Humphrey (sic) Hayler. Humphrey Hayler lived on Rickett's Farm, Norwood in the parish of Charlwood. On the night of 22 November with two other men named Johns and Hookey were in a cottage where they lived about 100 to 200 yards from the spot where this occurred when they heard a shot fired. Later there was a second shot so they got sticks and went out with Hayler in front the others a few minutes behind. They were to find Hayler quite dead, shot though the left side from close range. The prisoners had bene together in the Fox at 7pm. The boot marks of the prisoners' matched exactly those found near the body. Flint made a statement to Superintendent Page at Dorking after he had been remanded. (**The judge said that it was very improper for police to take down statements; if anything of this sort was to be done, the magistrates should do it**).

The statement said that the men were walking through a wood in line when one man shot the deceased. At his committal Skeet said he had the gun in his hand when the keeper rushed him, seized the gun and it went off. They may have been out for a common purpose but that common purpose may not have been to cause the death of the keeper. A very long report of the trial follows. Superintendent Page from Dorking went to the scene as soon as he was informed in the morning and went to the spot. He then went to examine the body and from information received he went to Flint's house but he was not there. He found there a pair of leather leggings covered in clay and saturated with wet; also, a pair of corduroy trousers, which were wet; a gun loaded and capped, a powder flask and a heavy cap. He went and apprehended Flint at the Black Horse, Hookwood Common. I took him in a cart to find out if he had been at The Fox when he said to Page, "I know I was up there yesterday; I went to see a farmer about some shooting."

[138] The Leeds Mercury (Leeds, England), Saturday, November 25, 1865
[139] Nottinghamshire Guardian (London, England), Friday, December 08, 1865

Page left Flint at the Fox in company of a police officer. I took his boots off and tracked footprints through the wood and briars to a stream into which someone had slipped. There were other tracks including where someone had fallen on one knee and there was also the mark of the butt end of a gun. The mark showed the impression of corduroy breeches. I inspected the other mark with the butt end of the gun found at Flint's house and they agreed. The leggings had on them stiff clay of the same sort as was in the field adjoin the wood. The superintendent followed the marks for some distance and they remained distinct. Flint's boots were unusually large and wide. One had three nails out and the other five new ones put in. The boots exactly corresponded with the mark. Other footmarks were compared with the boots of the prisoners and their route could be traced to the edge but not into the wood. After Flint was remanded Page was told by Flint that he wanted to tell all about it. He was reminded that he had been cautioned by the magistrate and said, "If you get pens and ink and paper and put it down, I will sign it." This was read to the court with the names omitted.

PC George Cobden of Horley arrested Skeet on Reigate Heath. PC William How's was at Norwood Hill on the 22 November at about 20 minutes before six when he saw Skeet coming from his father's house. Inspector Miller later met him and at a few minutes before eight they heard the report of a gun in the direction of Rickett's copse. Several more shots were heard. He went to The Fox to light his lamp where he saw Peters and from what he was told went to the copse where he saw the deceased. This officer assisted Superintendent Page with comparing the tracks and the boots and confirms what the last witness said. He later recovered a double-barrelled gun from Skeet's father's house and found one of the barrels had been discharged and the other was still loaded.

The jury were told that an indictment for murder always included one for manslaughter and it was for the jury to decide if any or all were guilty of murder or manslaughter. If the keeper was killed by design it was murder if by accident it was, in his opinion, manslaughter. If committing a joint felony, they were all guilty. There was no evidence against the prisoners other than Skeet and he directed to return a verdict of not guilty. Skeet was engaged in a wrongful act and he thought the jury would bring in a verdict of manslaughter but it was for them to decide which they did in a few minutes bring in a verdict of manslaughter and not guilty against all the others. There were sentences of three months hard labour against Flint and Skelton for poaching with Thornton and Jordan being discharged. On Thursday Skeet was brought up and sentenced to 18 months hard labour. [140]

1866 5th June Surrey Gazette-James Keazley, baker and confectioner of Reigate was summoned for having on 17th May last, the **following weights in his possession** which were incorrect, namely, one 4lb, one 2lb, two 1 lb and one 2oz. Superintendent J page, inspector of weights and measures, stated that on 17th May he went to the defendant's shop for the purpose of testing the weights, and he there found one 1 lb brass weight which was incorrect. He enquired if they had any more weights and was told there were some in the bakehouse. The following were then produced to him in the shop- one 4lb brass weight which was a quarter of

[140] 1866 April 3: The Sussex Advertiser

an ounce overweight, one 2lb weight 3drs (drams) overweight, one 2lb weight, 2dr too heavy, two 1lb weight, one dram[141] each too heavy and one 2oz weight slightly too heavy. The weights when produced to him were very much covered with dough, and after they were washed clean, he found them as stated. The defendant pleaded guilty and stated they were kept too heavy for the special convenience of his men, when weighing up butter or sugar, or goods for baking, in order that the goods might come into the shop the proper weight., for which purpose thy must give overweight in the raw state. They were confectioner's weights and never used for buying or selling. The Mayor said, taking all the circumstances into account, the magistrates were disposed to dismiss the case, but at the same time, they would recommend the defendant kept his weights properly adjusted. The Inspector only having done his duty by bringing the case before them.

1866 18th September Kentish Gazette: Dorking: **Dog poisoning**: During the past week a valuable dog belonging to Mr Superintendent Page has been maliciously poisoned. The owner was offered £10 for it a short time since, and in addition to his pecuniary value would not have parted with the animal upon any consideration. It is a pity that he perpetrators of such a wanton and cruel deed escaped detection and the punishment they so justly deserve.

1866 November 10 Dorking: A narrow escape: Some alarm was felt on Saturday night last when a cry of **"Fire"** was raised from the house of Mrs Dewdney saddler in the High Street. PC Sleigh hastened to the spot when he found much smoke procuring from the lower part of the house used as a workshop. Superintendent Page was also at once summoned and from whose examination it was found that a box containing straw and other materials had become ignited. The police with the assistance of many others who had been attracted to the spot suppressed all danger. It is supposed **some squib**, which had been let off in the street, had been the cause of the accident.[142]

1866 November 10: Dorking Magistrates Clerk's fees: At the bench on Saturday before Captain Parrat and AW Barclay, Chief Constable Captain Hastings attended as he stated for the purpose of representing to the bench the circumstances of summonses, which were applied for by Superintendent Page to the clerk to the justice's clerk's fees thereon were then and there paid. He complained of this because although by a recent order of quarter sessions justices' clerks were from 1 July last to be paid by salary and to account for fees, no order had been made authorising such a refusal, and the ends of justice were thus defeated, and he should be glad if the bench would make an order that summonses etc., should be granted to the police without payment of fees, until the subject could be mooted at the next quarter sessions. The superintendent had no fund out of which to pay the fees and if the county paid them, it would receive them again through the treasurer. He thought the order was perfectly understood in other parts of the county as no similar instances had occurred in any other division. The bench

[141] 0.0625 ounce

[142] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser

considered they had no authority to make any order; the matter must be dealt with at Quarter Sessions.[143]

1866 November 10: The late case of drowning: Inquest Dorking: The body of a man was found in the River Mole and an inquest was held before the coroner and an intelligent jury. Charles Pitt a gardener at Pixham was walking by the river when he saw a small object, which on inspection turned out to be a body. He at once gave information to Superintendent Page, Dorking Police, and went back to the body with a police constable and the body which was heavily decomposed was taken to the deadhouse at Dorking cemetery. The PM by a local surgeon was undertaken and it was declared that the body had been in the river for several months. PC Sleigh said that he went to the River Mole where he examined the body before assisting in its removal to the deadhouse where it now lies. The coroner gave Superintendent Page strict instructions that the various articles taken from the body should be taken care of, so they might be the means leading to the identification of the deceased at any future period. Jury returned a verdict of "Found Dead." [144]

1867 September 10: Dorking Magistrates: David Kitchen of Dorking a baker was summoned for **selling a quarter loaf deficient one ounce.** PC 27 John Argent Surrey **Constabulary was on duty in plain clothes** and went to the defendant's shop in Ram Alley and asked for a loaf. The officer said, "This is a 4lb loaf misses?" She said, "Yes I believe it was when put in the oven." The officer asked her to weight it, which she refused to do. He paid 9 1/2d and took it to Superintendent Page who weighed it and found it to be 1oz short. Fine of 1s and costs and if these cases increased severe penalties would be imposed.[145]

1867 November 5: Alleged poisoning by phosphorus: An enquiry into the death of Grace Moore aged 13 who was alleged to have been poisoned by phosphorus was resumed on Friday at the Parrot Inn, **Forest Green**. Superintendent Page of Dorking was there to watch the proceedings on behalf of the police. PC Puttock Surrey Constabulary stationed at Ockley was one of the many witnesses. The report is long and faded and difficult to read however the jury returned the verdict": "We find that the deceased died from the effects of phosphorus poisoning, but at the same time the jury say there is not sufficient evidence to induce them to say whether the poison was taken inadvertently or with the intention to destroy life, or whether it was administered by any other person there was not sufficient evidence to show. At the same time the jury desire to add that in its opinion there are most material facts kept back by those witnesses who are most of them related to the person under suspicion of having caused the death of the deceased." The proceedings then terminated.[146]

1869 24th July Surrey Advertiser Dorking - Horse Stealing -On Monday night last a horse was stolen from the premises of Mr Stephen Skelton, Holmwood Common, and a cart and set of harness from Mr Pratt, who also lives in Holmwood. It is suspected the robberies were

[143] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[144] 1866 November 10: Surrey Advertiser
[145] 1867 September 10: Surrey Standard, Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[146] 1867 November 5: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

committed by two men who attended the Horsham Fair, and who robbed Mr Pratt this time last year of a horse, cart, and harness. Our active superintendent Mr Page set out on the track of the thieves and traced them to Chipstead, where, as several lanes diverge to various points all further trace was lost. No doubt the rascals go safely to London with their plunder, and it would be a miracle if they are discovered, or if they were it would be a puzzle for the owners to identify their property, after it had undergone the London process of touching up or dressing as it is technically termed.

1869 28th August: Surrey Advertiser: **Havoc among lambs**: On Monday morning no less than eight lambs belonging to Mr Heathcote, of Box Hill Farm, Dorking, were discovered dead in one of his fields. Upon examination it was found they had been worried by dogs, the necks of the lambs having been bitten through, and the carcass otherwise untouched, drained of its blood. Precautions have been taken by the police, under the authority and direction of Superintendent Page, to capture the canine depredators.

1869 28th August Surrey Advertiser- Dorking: **The Fire Engines:** The engines were taken out in Wednesday evening by Mr Superintendent Page, and the band of firemen who act under his direction. The washaway as usual was the scene of the exercise, and although the supply of water was somewhat scarce, the engines and hose were worked and proved to be in a highly efficient state.

1869 25th December Surrey Advertiser: Ockley: **Singular and Extensive Robbery**: On Sunday evening last the house of Mr Coleman, baker and grocer of this place was entered, and a cash box containing more than £20 in gold and silver was stolen therefrom. Superintendent Page, of Dorking, was immediately communicated with, and he discovered that the house had been entered by the window at the back. He traced footmarks along the road to a spot within a short distance of the turnpike gate, and here by the side of the way found the cash box lying by the hedge and on picking it up found it had been broken up, but contained £17 of the missing money, only about £4 having been abstracted therefrom.

1870 April 23: Dorking: Mr Superintendent Page: It is with extreme regret we have to announce that Mr John Page the superintendent of police in this district is about to be **removed to the Chertsey division.** Fortunately, the cause of Mr Page's removal is one that adds to his merit, because of the district he is about to take charge, is from its size and importance one peculiarly required an experienced and able officer and therefore the appointment is a step of promotion; but though it is to his credit that this selection should have been made by his chief, still the people of Dorking will feel greatly the loss of one who for 18 years has been amongst them as a faithful officer, thoroughly efficient in the discharge of very onerous duties, and who in the exercise of that office, during the long period mentioned, has gained the esteem of all, by the kindly manner in which it was conducted. As a personal friend John Page will be kindly remembered by all who knew him and we believe there is but one wish for him in his going, that of success in his new sphere of duty. We presume of course that Chief Constable has made this change in the interests of the county, but we believe it is the intention of the magistrates here to ask the Chief to retain Mr Page at Dorking. We hope the application will succeed. At

all events we know there is a strong desire in the town to present Mr Page with a testimonial before leaving. No man better deserves such a mark of esteem and we hope it will take a tangible form. Our best efforts shall be used to promote its success.[147]

1870 7th May Surrey Advertiser: Dorking: Mr Superintendent Page: We hear with pleasure that the respected superintendent of police, **Mr John Page, is still to remain among us**, the Chief Constable having reconsidered his previous determination of transferring him to Chertsey. Though the transference to the latter place clearly showed the estimate of Mr Page's ability as an officer, the people of Dorking would have regretted his departure very much. As a proof of this we may say that a memorial to the Chief Constable to retain Mr Page at Dorking has been signed by upwards of 500 of the principal inhabitants, and we believe we are correct in stating that a similar request was made by the whole of the magistrates of the division. In common with the inhabitants of Dorking we have to thank the Chief Constable for not depriving us of an excellent officer and good neighbour.

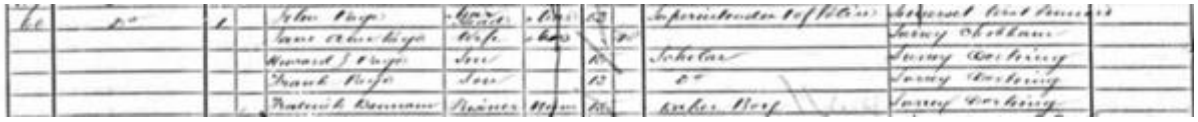
1870 16th July Surrey Advertiser: Dorking: **Charge of arson**: A Dorking on Monday, John Smith, a tramp, was charged with setting fire to a rick of hay, the property of Mr John Goddard of the White Horse Inn Dorking. The haystack was in a field adjoining the road leading from Dorking to Leatherhead, and about 2 o'clock in the morning a signalman on the railway saw the fire. He at once sent information to Dorking Police Station, and Superintendent Page proceeded to the spot. On the way he met the prisoner and questioned him as to where he came from and where he was going. He would not give any satisfactory answers, and at once was taken into custody. Upon this he remarked, he supposed the superintendent was going to the fire, and added he had set the rick on fire, but unintentionally. He said he had been asleep by the rick, and on awaking lighted his pipe, throwing away the match, which ignite the hay, he tried to put out the fire, but could not do so. The magistrate did not think there was sufficient evidence to support the charge of arson but committed the prisoner as a rogue and vagabond for three month's imprisonment at hard labour.

1870 August 13: Shocking occurrence at Newdigate: The inhabitants of the village of Newdigate were thrown into great consternation on Wednesday evening by the report of a shocking occurrence at Pran (Dean?) House farm, the residence of Mr John Privett who is a farmer of some 60 years of age. It appears that Mrs Privett had sent out the servant girl to drive in some cows to be milked. Directly after a report of a firearm was heard and Mr Privett ran out of the house to his sons who were harvesting near and begged them come in or they would not see their mother alive, as he had **accidentally shot her.** On the sons and neighbours coming in Mrs privet and elderly woman was found to be quite dead, having been shot through the chin and mouth. Mr Privett was about to go into the fields to shoot rabbits. One of his sons had used the gun the night before and as he was checking to see if it was loaded it went off and killed his wife. Superintendent Page, Surrey Constabulary has made strict enquiries into the matter and is of the opinion that the occurrence was purely accidental. An inquest will be held.[148]

[147] 1870 April 23: Surrey Advertiser and County Times
[148] 1870 August 13: The Surrey Advertiser and County Gazette

1870 August 13: Dorking magistrates: Edward Thomas 23 was charged on remand with **stealing a horse** on the 27 inst., value £25 the property of Charles Smith of the Holmwood, a farmer. The horse was taken from a field overnight and information was immediately given to the police. Mr Superintendent Page traced the horse to Chichester where it was sold to Lucas, a horse dealer for £6. The horse was taken to Lindfield fair where it was offered to the victim. There is little doubt that the prisoner is connected to a number of other robberies of horses. Committed for trial.[149]

1871 Census for South Street Dorking lists John Page, his wife and two children plus Frederick Bannan? aged 15 years, a prisoner.



1872 30th May: **Jane Ann Page was buried** at Dorking Municipal Cemetery her age was given as 53years and she was the wife of John Page of Dorking, Supt of Police and her residence was South Street, Dorking, (the burial register lists her as Ann Page).

1872 3rd December Surrey Gazette: Dorking: Wedding: Mr John Page, Superintendent of Police, was **married on Monday** last, at St Paul's Church, to Mrs Jane Goddard, widow of the late Mr John Goddard, of the White Horse Inn. After the nuptial ceremony the happy pair proceeded to the Burford Bridge Hotel, where a breakfast awaited them. Shortly afterwards they left for Brighton to spend their honeymoon. They are expected to return in the course of the present week.

1873 8th February Surrey Advertiser: Dorking: Accident: Mr Superintendent Page of Dorking was driving to Reigate on Monday, and when near the town his horse slipped up on the snow, and the **superintendent was thrown out**, but fortunately was unhurt. A handcuffed prisoner in the cart retained his seat, and thus escaped the unpleasant consequences which might have results by a fall in such conditions.

1873 12th April Surrey Advertiser: Dorking: Miss Douglas's **charge of police neglect** on Shrove Tuesday- Dorking Petty Sessions: Miss Douglas had lived in comfort at her house until Mr Shearburn's factory whistle was erected. To restrain the nuisance caused by this, she took legal proceedings, which seemed to have created a good deal of feeling in Dorking. It was intimated to Miss Douglas some days before Shrove Tuesday that an elaborate demonstration was to be got up by some persons quite irrespective of Mr Shearburn, that a procession was to be formed, that she was to be serenaded with whistles and that she was to be represented by an effigy.

[149] 1870 August 13: The Surrey Advertiser and County Gazette

As Miss Douglas was an invalid, living with an unmarried sister, Mr Tindale, who was communicated with, went down to Dorking Police Station on the morning of Shrove Tuesday, and saw a police officer on the subject and he assured him precautions would be taken. In the afternoon, however, the mob came to the place, got into the garden, knocked the garden boy down and rolled him in the snow, frightening the ladies. It was complained that after they had gone, an officer came and said he had nothing to do with it and declined to interfere. Mr Superintendent Page was sent for, but as he was ill, he did not arrive until nearly nine in the evening, when he said he had received no intimation of any apprehended disturbance, and if he had, he could not have sent an officer on private service without the man being paid for.

A statement of which this is the substance was sent in mistake to the Chief Commissioner of Police who forwarded it to Captain Hastings, Chief Constable of Surrey, who replied – 13 March 1873: Gentlemen- since writing to you last week I have been over to Dorking myself and have made personal enquiry into your complaint. You are aware, I believe that an old custom prevails on Shrove Tuesday in the town of Dorking of playing a game of football in the streets, a practice which I regret to say, is encouraged by the tradespeople, who not only close their shops, but contribute money towards it. Unfortunately, this year there was snow upon the ground which occasioned further irregularities on the part of the mob. I could have wished in this case of your client Miss Douglas the police had afforded her special attention as being an invalid and naturally timid. I have pointed this out to them. And I trust notice which I have taken of the matter will have the effect of preventing any cause of complaint in future. I remain gentlemen, your obedient servant HE Hastings

Messrs Alfred Jones. Tindale and Grove then submitted that Miss Douglas did not think this was sufficient, but football should be prohibited on Shrove Tuesday, and that the inspector and the three constables be dismissed. The Chairman expressed his concurrence with the advisability of the football being suppressed, but said they had no authority to dismiss the police. Mr Tindale asked that they might recommend this to the proper authorities.

Mr Superintendent Page – The first I heard of the matter was at seven o'clock in the evening hen Miss Douglas sent for me. I had been ill all day. She said she had sent for the police that morning. I said that was the first I had heard of it but she assured me she had so I went directly to the police station and saw Slee. He said a gentleman had been, but he had applied for no police protection, he simply said some disturbance was likely to take place in the town, but on its being explained to him it was only what took place every Shrove Tuesday, he went away contented. Slee was someone I would believe before any person from London.

A constable went and stayed at the house for an hour, then went away as the mob had left. She applied for a man for the night and I said she could not have one unless she paid the usual charge of 5s, but that a man should be near the house during the night as much as possible, and he was. If I had known Miss Douglas had wanted protection in the day, I should have given it her, and would have gone myself. Slee gave corroborative statement denying he had promised to send a man to Miss Douglas's home.

After a god deal of conversation the Chairman said – The Bench are well satisfied that Miss Douglas has been very badly treated by the police, and that he superintendent and those under him should, in some way or other, after receiving the warning which they did at the station house, have taken some sort of precautionary steps. They did not do so. We have no power to dismiss a policeman, as Mr Tindale seems to think, but we will communicate our views of the case, which we had heard from both sides to Captain Hastings. He is the head of the force, responsible for its management and discipline. We can only place before him what we have heard and he must do what he thinks right for the protection of everybody, high and low, in the town of Dorking.

1873 4th October Surrey Advertiser: Dorking: **Retirement** of Mr Superintendent Page- After occupying the important position of superintendent of the County Police in this district for over twenty-two years, Mr Superintendent Page has retired from the post, carrying with him into private life the well-deserved reputation of being a most efficient officer, and withal a genial neighbour and friend. During his long term of office, Mr Page has won the esteem of the inhabitants generally, who regret extremely the loss of his valuable services. With them we wish him health and happiness in the quietude incidental to "unofficial" life.

1873 24th October: Surrey Gazette: Retiring with Honours: On 1st October the Chief Constable's Office issued the following memo: The Retirement of Supt Page: The following extract from a general order dated the 1st instant has been directed to be read to the police force throughout the county.

> Superintendent Page, of the Dorking Division, having been obliged to retire from the force in consequence of the state of his health, which renders him unfit for the further performance of his duties, the Chief Constable cannot allow an officer of so much merit and long standing to quit the service with a mere formal announcement of his resignation.

Superintendent Page deserves more than this, for he has discharged his duties faithfully and to the very best of his ability and has gained for himself the approbation of his Chief Constable, as well as the good will and respect of those under him. He joined Surrey Constabulary in January 1851, having previously served for several years in the Staffordshire Force. The Chief Constable regrets his departure, and in thus bidding him farewell, sincerely trusts that his health may improve, and that he may live to enjoy the pension which he has earned by his good conduct and long service.

The pension is £120 per annum, and there are none who enjoyed the acquaintance of the retiring Superintendent but will join the Chief Constable in his good wishes. Mr Page was once stationed as a police constable at Catshill, and afterwards served for several years under Mr Bevan, late superintendent at Stourport. Mr Bevan saying that he can testify that Mr Page was a most excellent officer.

1878 24th November John **Page died** at the "Hotel du Midi" Nice France.

1878 30th December: **Probate:** The will of John Page late of Dorking in Surrey, gentleman, who died 24th November 1878 at the "Hotel du Midi" Nice, France was proved at the Principal Registry by George Osborne of 98 Westbourne Grove Bayswater in the county of Middlesex, grocer and Howard John Page of 10 Stoke Grove, Stoke Fields Guildford in the county of Surrey, commercial clerk and son of the executors. Personal estate under £3000.

1879 15th February Surrey Advertiser: Public Notice: **John Page, deceased**. Notice is given that all persons having any claims against the estate of John Page, late of Dorking, in the county of Surrey, gentleman, deceased (who died 24th November 1878 and whose will was proved

30th December 1878 , in the **Principal Registry of the Probate Division** of her Majesty's High Court of Justice by George Osborne and Howard John Page, the executors named in the said will) are required to send in particulars of their claims or demand to the said executors, at the office of Messrs Nickinson, Prall and Nickinson, 51 Chancery Lane, London WC, on or before 25TH March next, at the expiration of which time the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said testator among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims only of which the said executors shall then have notice, and for the assets or any part thereof so distributed the said executors will not be liable to any person of whose claim or demand they shall not have had notice.

Jane Page died 7th March 1885, Probate was on 6th June 1885: the will of Jane Page late of Cotmandene, Dorking in the county of Surrey, widow, who died 7th March 1885 at Cotmandene was proved at the Principal Registry by George Scales of Dorking, Gentleman and James Henry Whitehead of Wrotham in the county of Kent, Post Office Letter Carrier, the great nephew – the executors. Personal estate £3,759 14s 4d. Whitehead was the maiden name of Jane Goddard/Page. Jane Page was buried 11th March 1885 at the Municipal Cemetery Dorking, her age being given as 79 years.

1886 17th April Surrey Advertiser carried a Public Notice for anyone with claims or demands on the estate of Jane Page late of Cotmandene Dorking to come forward before 1st May.

Howard John Page, the son of John Page also became a policeman in Surrey rising to the rank of Deputy Chief Constable and in 1910 he was awarded The King's Police Medal.

PC 69 John Smith
Irish Constabulary 1836-1848
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 79
11 February 1851 Superannuation 1 April 1874

The number or Smiths who served in the Surrey Constabulary make unravelling difficult. Below is in parts repetative and is put into this one document until research can be undertaken at the county history centre.

1851 February 11 joined the Surrey Constabulary: Age 36 in 1851, 5 feet 10 ½, born Mayo, Ireland living in London.

GO 32 April 28, 1851 promoted to the Second Class

GO 68 1 Jan 1852 promoted second to first class the equivalent to sergeant

GO 106 25 Oct 1852 Appearing at Newington Sessions two hours late reduced from second to third class.

GO 101 August 1, 1853 Third to second

GO 130 24 October 1856 second to first class

GO 78 April 5, 1872 fraudulently claiming exemption from the toll not being on duty. Reduced first to second class constable and moved.

Superannuation **1 April 1874** 23 years £46 12s pa. Good conduct, 7 postings, 7 discipline

There are numerous entries in newspapers for PC Smith of the Surrey Constabulary. However, several of these were after John retired and others have had to be ignored as it is not certain it was this Smith being reported on.

1856 October 21: County Police Office Guildford: John Wilson was charged by PC John Smith with being a **deserter** from the 19th Regiment of Foot and was committed to the county police station to await escort.[150]

1857 April 28 Pirbright attempted housebreaking: On Monday 20th at about midday Mrs Rose returned to her cottage in **Pirbright** and found two strange men about to leave the back of her premises. They saw Mrs Rose and made off and she then contacted PC John Smith Surrey Constabulary the Pirbright officer living in the village. The officer soon detained three

[150] 1856 October 28: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette

men and their two companions were shortly afterwards arrested in Ash. The five men were conveyed to the County Police Station at Guildford and taken before the court. John Smith, George Honor, John Rodey, Henry Jones, and John Dawson were all charged with being found in a dwelling house on the previous day for an unlawful purpose viz., with intent to commit a felony They were sentenced as rogues and vagabonds each to the full penalty of three months' imprisonment with hard labour in the House of Correction at Wandsworth. At the end of this term the police will again arrest the men on suspicion of a similar offence and in the event of this being satisfactorily proved, they will for a second time enjoy the hospitality of the county at the prison in Wandsworth.[151]

1858 February 27: Windsor Petty Sessions: A shoemaker was charged with **stealing boots** and other articles from Windsor. PC John Smith Surrey Constabulary gave evidence that he **stopped the prisoner on the road at Woking** and on **searching his bundle** he found the boots, leather and copper produced. Before putting questions to the prisoner, he had cautioned him. On route to the police station the prisoner admitted stealing the items from Windsor**.**[152]

1858 May 25: County Bench: George Apsey was charged with having on the 25 April been found **riding in his wagon** on the road from **Ash to Woking** without reins or anyone to guide the horse. PC John Smith proved the case and the defendant was fined £1 instead of the full £5 penalty and the money was paid.[153]

1866 October 13: A liking for turnips: John Thomas and Henry Hampton who had lately been employed as hop pickers were brought up in custody charged with stealing a quantity of turnips, the property of James Knight of Farnham. PC Smith Surrey Constabulary deposed that in consequence of many complaints having been made as to turnips being stolen from Mr Knight's field he watched there and on Saturday afternoon he saw the prisoners pulling up turnips and putting them into a basket. He took them into custody. Sent to prison for seven days.[154]

1866 October 27: Death of a child and miraculous escape of two others: On Friday afternoon some little children were playing in a sandpit on Farnham Common when a large proportion of the soil fell in and buried three of them. They were extricated as quickly as possible but one boy was dead. The body was removed to the Alma public house, Heath End where the inquest was opened. PC John Smith Surrey Constabulary deposed that on the morning he was on duty at Heath End. He heard the cry for help and ran to the spot and found some children under a heap of sand. He got one boy out who said his legs were broken – then he ran off. (Laughter) He then rolled several large pieces of sand off the other children and by that time further assistance arrived. They soon got out a little girl who was buried two feet below the surface and whom he thought at first was dead. He removed some sand from her mouth and her eyes opened. He left her in charge of a female and they again set to work and

[151] 1857 April 28 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette
[152] 1858 February 227: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[153] 1858 May 25 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette
[154] 1866 October 13: Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette

found the deceased who was buried at a depth of two or three feet. The boy was dead. The weight of the sand that fell in was between 4 and 5 tons. Verdict: Accidental Death. [155]

[155] 1866 27 October Surrey Advertiser

PC 71? John Smith
Surrey Constabulary
Ashtead 1876
Dorking Division

Finding an officer by the name of Smith over some 50 years is bound to lead to confusion and an inability given time and restricted access to records to identify individual officers. However, it is worth the research because of the high regard PC Smith was held evidenced by the newspaper reports of his retirement and death in 1889.

Firstly, there is a John Smith who it would appear from press cuttings, worked Guildford, Pirbright, Woking, Ash and Farnham. This would not be unusual in about 15 years' service; references cease in 1866 but a John appears again at Dorking in 1870. In 1876 There is a PC71 John Smith recorded in the newspapers at Ashtead.

The question is, are the John Smith on the western side of the county the same man who works the Dorking Leatherhead area later in the 1870s and 1880s. The gap in any recorded court cases from 1876 is concerning but if John retired in 1891, he may well have joined about thirty years previously about 1861 or if he served more than thirty. He may well be the Smith first recorded in Guildford in October 1856 but it is possible that there are two PC John Smiths between 1856 and 189. However, there are no records of a John Smith operating in the east and west of the county at the same time.

There is a Thomas Smith at this time in Ashtead, Leatherhead who becomes a Police Sergeant at Horley.

1856	October	PC	69	John	Guildford	
1857	April	PC	69	John	Pirbright	
1858	February	PC	69	John	Woking	
1858	May	PC	69	John	Ash to Woking	
1866	October	PC			Newspaper Aldershot	
1866	October	PC		John	Heath End Farnham	
1870	**August**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1872	April	PC		John	Discipline: move station	GO
1874	**April**	**PC**	**69**	**John**	**Pension 23 years**	Probably
1875	**July**	**PC**	**103**	**Smith-Bird**	**Fetcham**	
1876	**October**	**PC**	**71**	**John**	**Ashtead**	
1877	October	PC	74	Thomas	Ashtead	
1879	May	PC	74		Epsom Mags	
1879	September	PC		Thomas	Leatherhead	
1879	September	PC		Thomas	Leatherhead	

1879	**September**	**PC**	**87**	**Samuel**	**Leatherhead**	
1886	**May**	**PC**		**Smith-Bird**	**Bookham**	**Buried**
1887	**May**	**PC**			**Dorking**	Joined 1866
1887	**May**	**PC**			**Forest Green**	
1887	**August**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1887	December	PS		Thomas	Horley	
1888	**June**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1888	**July**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1889	**January**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1889	**April**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1889	**September**	**PC**			**Dorking**	
1891	**May**	**PC**			**Dorking**	Retired and died

Retired on Pension and Died May 1891

With all the references to PC Smith none gives any personal detail including his Christian names or age.

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[156] 1856 October 28: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette

[157] 1857 April 28 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette

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1870 August 13: Dorking County Bench: William Watts of Betchworth a rope maker, was summoned by PC Sleigh, Surrey Constabulary, for being **drunk and riotous in Dorking** on 19th July. The defendant was not present and PC Smith who served the summons said the defendant told him he would not appear. When PC Sleigh was giving evidence that the defendant was drunk and violent outside the Rose and Crown, Watts put in an appearance. And

[158] 1858 February 227: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[159] 1858 May 25 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette
[160] 1866 October 13: Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette
[161] 1866 27 October Surrey Advertiser

denied the charge. He had been convicted before and was fined 5s with 11s 6d costs or 7 days.[162]

1875 July 3: Epsom Petty Sessions: Henry Duffel a lad aged 13 was summonsed for **trespassing in pursuit of conies** on Fetcham Downs on land in the occupation of Benjamin Wonham and belonging to Mr Hankey. PC 103 Smith-Bird, Surrey Constabulary saw the defendant on 23 June on the land in question accompanied by a dog and with two rabbits. The owner did not wish to prosecute and so the father paid costs of 11s 6d and agreed to keep a strict watch over his son. [163]

1876 October 21: Epsom Petty Sessions: Henry Tune appeared in answer to a summons charging him with being **drunk and disorderly** when seen by **PC 71 John Smith,** Surrey Constabulary in **Ashtead.** Bad language, intoxication and wishing to fight received a fine of 3s and 7s costs.[164]

1877 October 20: Epsom Petty Sessions: A young marauder in Ashtead: Peter Hampshire, a lad, living in **Ashtead** was charged with **stealing a quantity of apples** growing in the orchard of Thomas Skelton. **PC74 Thomas Smith**, Surrey Constabulary saw the lad with two others in the orchard throwing stones at the apples. When they saw the policeman, they ran away, but he was caught, and apples found in his pockets. A fine of 2s and 8s costs paid immediately by the boy's mother.[165]

1879 May 3: Epsom Magistrates: Alfred Randle was summoned by PC74 Smith for having a **cart without his name** and description painted legibly upon it. Fine of 14s 6d [166]

1879 September 27: Epsom Petty Sessions George Voice was summoned for obstructing the highway at Leatherhead by PC Thomas Smith, Surrey Constabulary who watched a miller's van outside the Swan for half an hour when the defendant came out. Fine and costs 15s [167]

1879 September 27: Epsom Petty Sessions: Henry Dobson was summoned for obstructing the highway at Leatherhead by PC Thomas Smith, Surrey Constabulary who watched a horse and cart outside the Swan for half an hour when the defendant came out. Fine and costs 15s[168]

1879 September 27: Epsom Petty Sessions: The Adulteration Act: Edward Hewlins a chemist was summoned for **selling cream of tartar** which was not of the nature, substance and quality demanded. PC87 Samuel Smith, Surrey Constabulary said he called at the defendant's shop in High Street, Leatherhead and asked for two ounces of cream of tartar for which he paid

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[162] 1870 August 13: The Surrey Advertiser and County Gazette
[163] 1875 July 3: Croydon Advertiser
[164] 1876 October 21 The Croydon Advertiser and East Surrey Reporter
[165] 1877 October 20: Croydon Advertiser
[166] 1879 May 3: Croydon Advertiser
[167] 1879 September 27: Croydon Advertiser
[168] 1879 September 27: Croydon Advertiser

4d. He told the shop assistant that he was going to send it to be analysed and wanted him to witness him dividing the purchase into three parts leaving one with him. Analyses showed the cream had been adulterated but the Bench dismissed the case.[169]

1886 15 May West Surrey Times: Funeral of PC Smith Bird buried in the churchyard At Bookham where he had been stationed. He had served in the Surrey Constabulary for 19 years and succeeded in earning the goodwill of his comrades and the respect of the community at large. Eight constables acted as bearers. Amongst those who joined in the funeral procession were Superintendent Lambert, Inspector Woods, Sergeant Hackman and some of the constabulary.[170]

1887 May 21: PC Smith attempted suicide Dorking: Dorking Police Court: Mr. Gordon Clark and Captain Scovell: Robert Turner a stonemason was charged with attempting to commit suicide by cutting his throat in Harrow Road east on the 7th inst. PC Smith was called to the defendant's house and found that the defendant had cut his throat. PC Smith took him to the hospital where he was immediately seen by medical officers. He told PC Smith that he had only done it to frighten his wife who refused to call the doctor to him as he was suffering a great deal of pain. Prisoner bound over in the sum of £10 to be of good behaviour. [171]

1887 May 21: Dorking Police Court: Mr. Gordon Clark and Captain Scovell**: Assault at Forest Green** James Inwood a labourer living at Shere was charged with assaulting PC Smith at Forest Green on April 25th This case arose out of another one in which George Coleman had been charged with a similar offence and was convicted. PC Smith attempted to eject several men out of the Parrot Inn after closing time. Coleman became so violent that the constable attempted to take him into custody when he was attacked by a number of men including Inwood. Fined £1 and costs.[172]

1887 August 13 Sunday gambling at Cotmandene PC Smith: Following a complaint from the public, Charles Brown, James Mitchell and Charles Poters (sic) were charged with gambling on Cotmandene on Sunday July 3. They pleaded guilty. PC Smith saw the men playing cards and money pass hands. There were 15 or 16 persons who formed two rings. Suspended punishment. [173]

1887 December 24: Surrey Constabulary establishment
Police Sergeant William J Skinner Albury
Police Sergeant Thomas Smith Horley
Police Sergeant William Hatton Farnham[174]

[169] 1879 September 27: Croydon Advertiser
[170] 1886 15 May West Surrey Times:
[171] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 21 May 1887
[172] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 21 May 1887
[173] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 13 August 1887
[174] 1887 December 24 West Surrey Times

1888 June 13: Incorrigible Vagabond: PC Smith Dorking: William Hooker[175] An incorrigible Vagabond: William Hooker who is well known character in Dorking charged drunk and disorderly in the High Street on Monday. PC Smith arrested him. Evidence was given that Hooker abused travellers as they were alighting from the London coach. He was also charged with damaging the cell window value 6d at the police station. Remanded in custody until Saturday. **1888 July 7 PC Smith Dorking – Hooker:** Brought up on remand when he was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment for each offence.

1889 January 12 A Carriage accident PC Smith Dorking. A carriage accident which resulted in serious injury of two horses belonging to Mr Cox of the White Horse, Hotel happened on Friday morning whilst returning from Denbies. In Station Road the pin dropped out of the carriage pole which fell to the ground. The horses were startled and made off at a dangerous speed. The two ran into a lamp post at the public hall and besides doing considerable damage to the lamp, one horse was seriously injured and fell. The other broke away from the harness and rushed up West Street but was eventually captured by PC Smith. Ultimately the two horses were got home safely but seriously scratched and cut.[176]

1889 April 20 A night's lodging for Edmund Pearce – PC Smith Dorking. Pearce attended the Dorking Market and unfortunately had a drop too much and strolled off in the opposite direction and about midnight was found by PC Smith in Coldharbour Lane. The constable with assistance got the butcher to the police station where he was lodged for the night. Fined 7s the following morning.[177]

1889 September 14 Sussex Agricultural Express: Death of an ex-police officer at Reigate: It is with much regret that we announce the death of ex-Inspector Gray of the Surrey Constabulary. He was 59 and had been stationed at Reigate for twelve or thirteen years. He was superannuated some months ago on a medical certificate for unfitness for further duty. His health gradually declined and he became very feeble. The late Mr Gray was a zealous and efficient officer who was greatly respected. The funeral took place in Reigate cemetery. I addition to family and friends, colleagues from the county constabulary followed: Superintendent Lambert Dorking, Superintendent Redford Godstone, Inspectors Wood Leatherhead, King Dorking. Hackman Reigate, Sgts Brice Caterham, **Smith** Horley; **PC Smith** and Marshall Dorking, B Marshall Nutfield, Miles Merstham, Osborne Holmwood, Larby Chipstead, Hibberd Betchworth, Egerton Brockham, Witney Leigh and Molland Charlewood,

Eight police officers acted as bearers and four lowered the body into the grave. Ex- Constable Tugwell of Dorking attended as did just one representative of Reigate Borough Police Sergeant Richards.[178]

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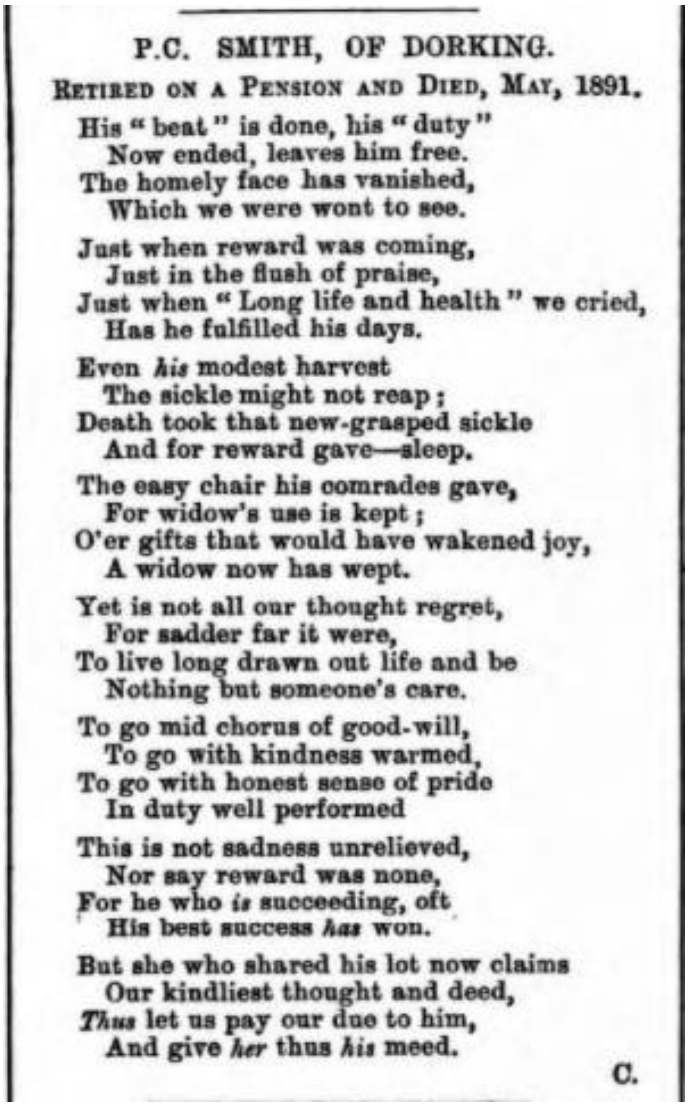
[175] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 13 June 1888

[176] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 12 January 1889

[177] 1889 April 20 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser

[178] 1889 September 14 Sussex Agricultural Express Does just one officer from Reigate Borough Police indicate a rift of some sort?

1891 May 23 Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser PC Smith of Dorking - retired and died



P.C. SMITH, OF DORKING.

RETIRED ON A PENSION AND DIED, MAY, 1891.

His "beat" is done, his "duty"
Now ended, leaves him free.
The homely face has vanished,
Which we were wont to see.

Just when reward was coming,
Just in the flush of praise,
Just when "Long life and health" we cried,
Has he fulfilled his days.

Even *his* modest harvest
The sickle might not reap;
Death took that new-grasped sickle
And for reward gave—sleep.

The easy chair his comrades gave,
For widow's use is kept;
O'er gifts that would have wakened joy,
A widow now has wept.

Yet is not all our thought regret,
For sadder far it were,
To live long drawn out life and be
Nothing but someone's care.

To go mid chorus of good-will,
To go with kindness warmed,
To go with honest sense of pride
In duty well performed

This is not sadness unrelieved,
Nor say reward was none,
For he who *is* succeeding, oft
His best success *has* won.

But she who shared his lot now claims
Our kindliest thought and deed,
Thus let us pay our due to him,
And give *her* thus *his* meed.

C.

1891 May 30: Funeral of PC Smith, Dorking: In the presence of a numerous concourse of people the remains of PC Smith were interred in the Dorking Cemetery on Sunday afternoon. As announced in our last issue PC Smith died suddenly on Thursday morning after 30 years' service as a member of the Surrey Constabulary and he was about to retire on a well-earned pension. Deceased was a painstaking and conscientious officer and was highly respected by his colleagues, a large number of whom were present at the internment in order to show their esteem for him, and many had travelled on foot a considerable distance. The coffin, which was surmounted by a number of handsome wreaths, was conveyed from the deceased's residence to the cemetery on an open hearse, which was followed by mourning coaches containing the deceased's relatives. The members of the constabulary followed at the rear, among those who attended were Superintendent Lambert (Dorking), Inspector Wood (Leatherhead), Inspector Hackman (Reigate), ex-Inspector Manning, Sergeant Mark (Holmwood), Sergeant Scarterfield, PCs Evans (Ashtead), Oliver and Avenall (Leatherhead) , Gwilliam (Boxhill), Slemmings (Beare Green), Madgwick (Ockley), Mollond and Osborne (Charlwood), Robinson (Walton on the Hill), Card (Kingswood), Finch (Shere), Stedman (Westcott), Newton (Effingham), Miller (Bookham), Marshal and Boon (Dorking). Mr M Mitchell of the Plymouth

Bretheren performed the service at the graveside. A number of wreaths were sent including one from the officers and constables of the Dorking Division. [179]

1891 October 17: Pleuro-pneumonia in Surrey: **Reigate County Bench:** William Templeton, farmer Merton, John Templeton, farmer Horley and John Reed drover were summoned for the removal of five cattle in contravention of a special order made by SCC under the Pleuro-Pneumonia Act. PC Miles Surrey Constabulary was on duty at Merstham at ten o'clock in the morning of the 5 September when Reed came along the road driving five cattle from the direction of a scheduled district within the Act, Coulsdon. The drover said he had brought them from Merton and was taking them to Horley. The next day the officer interviewed the farmer in Horley where the cattle were bound. Police in Horley, PC Smith, had previously visited the farm to tell the farmer there was restrictions in place but the farmer said he had forgotten this. William Templeton was fined 50s and costs. John Templeton was given the benefit of the doubt. Reed who would most likely know nothing of the law was fined a shilling and costs. [180]

1891 June 20: Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser: The Late PC Smith: Well done! It is with great pleasure that we give publicity to the following circular: Some short time ago we issued an announcement that we were willing to receive subscriptions with a view to making some acknowledgement to PC Smith, before he retired from the police force, of the manner in which he had carried out his duties in the town for upwards of 25 years. But unfortunately, before any testimonial could be made, he died suddenly and it has been suggested that his widow should not be precluded from benefitting from the proposed testimonial. We have under the extreme circumstances of the case consented to receive subscriptions on behalf of the widow. We may mention she has a daughter dependent upon her who is entirely prevented from getting her own living.

1892 October 11: Reigate County Bench: Three labourer from Worth were summoned for being **quarrelsome and disorderly at the Shipley Bridge Inn, Burstow** and refusing to quit. **Henry Stephen Smith ex-constable Surrey Constabulary** was called in to help the landlord said the defendants were quarrelsome, spiteful lot and had got a vindictive feeling towards the landlord. They threatened to kill the witness and he told them they could start whenever they liked. (Laughter) All three were fined £2 each and the costs between them or one month's hard labour. Two of the men were bound over.

1892 October 15: Sussex Agricultural Express: Police Promotion: Sergeant Marks who has been promoted to acting inspectorship of the Surrey Constabulary in succession to Inspector Hackman at Reigate will be succeeded at Holmwood by PC Marshall recently stationed at Weybridge who has been promoted sergeant. **Sergeant Smith formally of Farnham and Horley** has been raised to the rank of **inspector** to take the place at Leatherhead of Inspector Woods who retires at the end of the month on pension. Superintendent Lambert who for many

[179] Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser 30 May 1891

[180] 1891 October 17: The Surrey Mirror and General County Advertise

years was in charge of the Dorking division, and has recently been stationed at Chertsey has retired on pension.

West Surrey Times 7 January 1893

Inspectors James Brice Caterham, Edwin J King Egham, William T Skinner Godalming, Arthur Simmonds Guildford, Turner Edgerler Hersham, **Thomas Smith** Leatherhead, William Marks Reigate

1894 July 14: Police Inspection: The police of the Dorking Petty Sessional Division were inspected on Saturday morning by Captain Perry who was accompanied by Captain Hastings Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary. The force on parade numbered about 34 including Superintendent Alexander, **Inspectors Smith** and Marks, Sergeants Campbell and Marshall. The men were put through various drill movements in front of the police station after which Captain Perry inspected their appointments. (Truncheon, whistle etc.) Everything appeared satisfactory. Previous to the inspection Captain Parry and Captain Hastings went over the police station and courthouse now under construction.[181]

1899 July 8 West Surrey Times: The new inspector: Inspector Smith will give up the charge of Cranleigh district to Sergeant Halliday next week. **Inspector Smith** will succeed Police Sergeant Halliday at Albury.

[181] 1894 July 14 Surrey Mirror

Inspector William Donaldson
Metropolitan Police 1835-1838
Dorking Police 1838-1851
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 81
Killed on Duty
1807 -1855

1807 born Alloa, Scotland became an Artist then Metropolitan Police **1935-1938**

1838-1851 Dorking Police, Superintending Constable

1851 February 15 joined Surrey Constabulary: Age 39 in 1851, 5 feet 10 ½ born Clackmannan served Chobham, Leatherhead, Horley and Haslemere

GO 90 January 12, 1853 dismissed having demanded and received sum of money and having given no account of the same. Such conduct being highly disgraceful and in direct violation of the rules and regulations of the service.

GO 93 January 13, 1853 Chief Constable having received an explanation from the committing magistrate of the circumstances connected with the case which led to dismissal exculpating that that officer in a great degree, he is hereby reinstated and GO 90 cancelled.

GO115 17 November 1854 Reigate to Godalming division to be stationed at Haslemere vice Wilson dismissed to proceed there at once with as little delay as possible.

1855 July 29 killed at Haslemere on duty whilst dealing with a serious disturbance.

GO 122 1 Aug 1855 Inspector Glamorgan to Haslemere vice Inspector Donaldson deceased.

Joint paper from Robert Bartlett, Chris Atkins and Henry and Jean Pelham

William Donaldson was born in Alloa, Scotland, 8 November 1807. In 1835 he married Janet (or Jane) Clement in the town. He moved to London where in about 1835 he joined the Metropolitan Police serving until 1838 when he became a member of the micro-police force in Dorking as superintending constable. On February 15, 1851 when the Dorking police was incorporated within the new constabulary, he enrolled into the newly formed force and was stationed at Chobham. Only a month later 10 March, he went to Leatherhead (where he and Janet are shown living at Bridge Street in the 1851 census, he was to give his occupation as "Artist, Police Officer") then the family moved on 21 January 1853 to Horley and on 20 November 1854 to Haslemere. There he was killed on 29 July 1855 while dealing with a serious disturbance in the town centre.

When the officer in charge of Dorking Police before the Surrey Constabulary was formed William was frequently referred to as superintendent which was correct at the time as he was the superintending constable. He was more usually referred to as Inspector Donaldson and certainly was after he was appointed inspector as one of the first 100 of the Surrey Constabulary.

1838 Dorking Police: Inspector William Donaldson led the small police force of two or three men in Dorking from 1838-1851. He maintained a log of their activities, known as the Occurrence Book a term used on into the 1970s, of which the volumes covering 1838 to 1849 survived and lodged in the Surrey County Council Family History Centre at Woking.

1838 Dorking Police [182] [183]
"The Occurrence Book of the Dorking Police, 1838-1849

Researched and written by Christopher Atkins QPM, late Assistant Chief Constable Surrey Constabulary abridged January 2021 by Robert Bartlett. The full version is to be found on www.surrey-constabulary.com Surrey Constabulary History Journal Number 4.

William Donaldson led a small police force in Dorking from 1838-1851. He had the title of superintendent and maintained a log of their activities, known as the Occurrence Book of which the volumes covering 1838 to 1849 survived. The Surrey Constabulary was formed in 1851, in the process of ensuring a police system throughout the country. Local policing often existed before then but it is rare that we have the detailed insight into its work which Superintendent Donaldson's Occurrence Book give, covering the eleven years from 12th November 1838 to 3rd April 1849, setting out the details of what he and his men did from day to day.

The force consisted of three officers, initially Superintendent Donaldson, Police Constables No.1 William Brown, and No.2 Jonathan Lewin. This establishment did not alter, although the individuals did. They began work on 12th November 1838, when the Occurrence Book starts, although they were not sworn-in before a magistrate until November 15th. They got off to a good start and on the 15th arrested four people on suspicion of what was highway robbery, although there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

[182] Email to the Editor 14 March 2009
[183] "Policing Dorking, Surrey 1838-1849" Document May 2010 from the Author Chris Atkins

Sold at Christies, London in May 2014 and bought by the county archives at Woking where they are deposited

Organisation of the Dorking Police

Their purpose was set out in the book's first entry on the 12th. "On Tuesday forenoon the Boundaries were pointed out, and afterwards, as circumstances would allow, we patrolled in Company that we might show ourselves as much as possible, but we might make ourselves acquainted with our round and if possible, to prevent offences and apprehend the offenders."

Officers were based in a Station House. Early on the superintendent mentioned that an evening had been so wet that "we could not be out and left the Station House to go home..." [184] From 1847 it was referred to as the Police Station or merely Station and this was probably a new building.

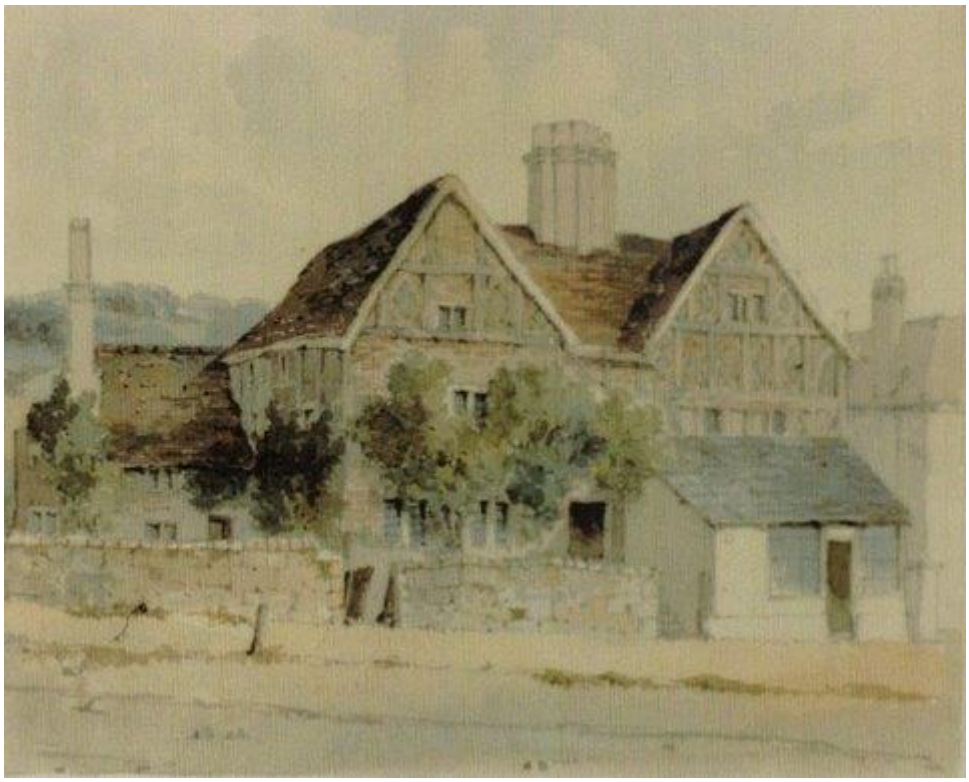
Presumably the public went to the Station House or Police Station to report incidents, or to "give offenders in charge" (a frequently used expression), if officers could not be found when patrolling. So, entries by the superintendent said, "I was sent for...., I was called to take in charge...." and so on, but it was not always speedy. For example, the news of a burglar disturbed at 11 pm was not passed to the officers until 5pm the following day. In one instance Donaldson was summoned by letter to the village of Mickleham to search a servant's quarter for a valuable ring[185]

The hours worked varied daily, but not by much: the superintendent worked all day and the two constables covered the late evenings and nights. The duties of each were often recorded

[184] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 2
[185] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 92

and early on the superintendent wrote that none of them was prepared to go out in the night so that they could be out and visible in the day. But this clear policy was contradicted by the hours the constables worked, which put emphasis on evening and night patrols even though one would have thought the value of patrolling after midnight might be minimal. The following is typical of an early duty rota for the Dorking force. [186]

	Superintendent	PC No.1	PC No.2
Mon	All day	9pm-6am	9 pm-6am
Tues	-do-	-do-	-do-
Wed	-do-	-do-	-do-
Thur	-do-	8pm-5am	8 pm-5am
Fri	-do-	9pm-6am	9 pm-6am
Sat	Morning & Evening	9pm-6am	9 pm-6am
Sun	Morning	Morning & 9pm-6am	6 pm-3am



Sondes Court Lodge now Waitrose in South Street, Dorking. Donaldson and his family are believed to have lived in a cottage seen at the rear with the large chimney.[187]

Superintendent Donaldson remained in charge for the eleven years, but there were five constables in this time. PC Brown and PC Lewin, the first to serve, both left around 13 May1839 when the superintendent said: "I received the clothing and accoutrements from the PCs" who were not mentioned thereafter. The superintendent worked alone for 18 months, typically all day and, say, 10pm-1am, until a new PC 2 Peters, is named on 1 February 1841

[186] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Pages 3-5
[187] Surrey Archaeological Society

and he remained until 19 May 1844. From February 1841 there was no other constable until a PC Briggs started on 11 December1842 and he remained throughout the book. PC Potter began work on 16 December1844 and, although last mentioned on 5 November1847, he probably was still there at the end of the book. It is clear that no formal training was given. There may be some errors in these dates because the superintendent often omits any mention of the constables for months, even though they were still working.

Area Patrolled and Other Police Officers: There is no evidence of routine work or patrolling outside Dorking nor in the nearby villages – which had their own parish constables, but occasional incidents were touched upon. For example, the superintendent mentioned[188] being called to nearby Holmwood to quell a disturbance by soldiers quartered in the Norfolk Arms, creating a great uproar and abusing the landlord "in a shameful manner and threatening to set fire to the House." He found all was quiet on arrival. One another call at Holmwood he detained a man for stealing brushwood, and the magistrates hearing the offence directed that the offender be handed back to Mr. Joseph Fuller, who had made the arrest, for conveyance to Guildford prison for his months' imprisonment. The superintendent passed a prisoner to the same Mr. Fuller for trial at Horsham for stealing a cow after the magistrate directed the jurisdiction was Mr. Fuller's. [189] The indications are that he may have been a parish constable in the Holmwood area.

There was a system for exchanging information between law enforcement officers. So, the description of suspects for a gamekeeper's murder at Cobham was received in Dorking. Circulation was made too about a watch stolen by Dorking prostitute and Guildford police having told the superintendent that a group in the town had disposed of it, he went there and assisted the Guildford inspector to make the arrests. The watch was recovered and the woman sent for trial where she received six months hard labour in Brixton. In another case a suit of clothes was stolen in the town and the suspect went to London. "I then forwarded information to Whitechapel Police Station, as we suspected he was in that neighbourhood." Only two days later the superintendent went before a Dorking justice with Sergeant Barker of the Metropolitan Police who had arrested the culprit, and he was committed for trial[190]

A City of London policeman arrived with two youths arrested in London for breaking into a Dorking jeweller (which the superintendent had circulated), and they received six- and nine-months hard labour.[191] Another City officer travelled to Dorking and sought help with enquiries he was making and arrested a local man.[192]

The way information was circulated emerged from the superintendent's description of enquiries he made into the theft of a pocketbook containing a good deal of money in Dorking. He took the owner through the local public houses to find those he suspected, but without

[188] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 4
[189] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page17
[190] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 157
[191] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 168
[192] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 160

success. He wrote: "I then forwarded information to several places by the post"[193] Two days later he was sent news that two of the stolen notes had been changed at a public house in The Borough, London, and had been stopped by the Bank of England. The superintendent took the victim to London; saw the landlord in the Borough and the couple then visited a number of coffee shops, and night houses frequented by thieves to see if either could recognise anyone they had seen in Dorking, all without success, although it must have been an experience for the victim. They returned to Dorking the next day.

The circulation of information system obviously worked well. A criminal with the alias "Civil John" was arrested in Dorking in possession of the stock of a clothier at Ripley three days after the crime had been committed.[194] One morning the superintendent had information from Farnham about a watch thief, arrested him soon after and took him to the Farnham constable in the afternoon.

To send the case to a Magistrates' Court, always referred to in the book as the Bench, but it is not always clear why they did so. It may have been for the more difficult cases, and perhaps the victim had a say in this. One of two squabbling neighbours accused the other of assault and damage to property. The complainant persisted that there had been a threat to her life, the case was sent to the Bench and the assailant was fined and bound by a £10 security for 12 months. Dorking, Reigate and Horsham Benches were mentioned, and doubtless each court had a jurisdiction. The Dorking Bench on at least one occasion sat in the Red Lion.[195] Bail was mentioned once: The Bench committed an accused for trial (possessing money from a highway robbery), but he was admitted to bail, himself in £50 and two sureties of £50 each. [196]

To send the case for trial at a higher court, the Quarter Sessions (always called the Sessions) or Assizes. The Assizes were usually for the serious cases, but a tramp was also sent there for stealing biscuits from a baker. Sessions are named at Reigate, Kingston, Guildford and London, Assizes at Kingston and Croydon. Grand Juries are mentioned at Kingston and London Sessions. Events moved quickly, compared with today. A committal for trial at the sessions could result in a finding and punishment within seven days, and three weeks seemed lax. In one case a committal from Dorking for trial was dealt with at Kingston Sessions on the same day![197]

Young people tended to get "well cautioned" and discharged for a first offence but were less fortunate on repeat appearances. For stealing apples, for example, two were fined £1.18/6 and one had 14 days imprisonment in default.[198] Three boys caught breaking windows and begging were sentenced to a month's hard labour at Guildford,[199] and another three brought before a

[193] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 164
[194] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 168
[195] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 105
[196] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 105
[197] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 105
[198] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 98
[199] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 141

justice by PC Briggs for breaking gas lamps got two months hard labour each.[200] Three boys arrested for lodging in a wagon kept in a cart shed all got three months hard labour. And these were children. The superintendent introduced a note of humanity (for the time) for boys arrested for trampling growing wheat and locked up in the Cage. One "I allowed to go home with his mother about 10 o'clock at night, as he was so young and as his mother is so subject to fits."[201]

Two troublesome youngsters, George Dibbles, aged 11, and Edward Randall, aged 9, came to the superintendent's attention. He had had information that, although young, they were persistent metal thieves in the town. At Biddle's house PC Brown recovered a bag of stolen metal from the loft, and both were brought before a magistrate who remanded them to the Bench the following day (in the Cage?). The court reprimanded Randall and fined Dibble 18/3, to be paid that night or he would go for a month on the treadmill at Guildford – he was aged 11. The money was paid.[202] The Dibbles were a particularly troublesome family in the town.

Three weeks later the same pair were stealing brass door furniture from Back Lane, but the owner would not prosecute, preferring that they be frightened instead. The superintendent found Randall, the younger one, who denied any knowledge of the offence, only to be told that if he gave up the metal that would be that, but if not, he would be locked up until the goods were found. Randall said Dibbles had told him where it was hidden, the metal was recovered and no further action was taken.

A number of boys were found trespassing and bathing in a brook, and all but one (Cooper by name) ran off when the superintendent approached. He "supposing he had a right to be there stood still, naked as he was. I then gave him a caning and threatened to put him in the Cage all night, but for fear of that as soon as he got his shirt on, he ran off. I then bundled up the rest of his clothes and took them home with me." What happened to the clothes or to the boy when he got home is left unsaid?[203]

The Work of the Officers: The overall impression from the eleven years in the Occurrence Book is of constant patrolling. The superintendent worked every day and all day, his officers the evenings and nights. We cannot know how much time was actually walking their area, as opposed to inside the Station House, but with the superintendent about from morning to night it may well have been most of the time. There is a great disparity between the number of incidents and arrests dealt with by the superintendent and by his two officers, which were few. The hours the constables worked – continual late and night turns – may have reduced their ability to become involved, but it is hard to see why they did not do so in the late evenings from 8 or 9pm onwards in the town.

[200] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr C.A. Willeard Page 149
[201] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 95
[202] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Pages 11-12
[203] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 76

The two hundred pages of the book therefore detail the work mainly of Superintendent Donaldson. There is a succession of visits to licensed premises and beer shops, dealing with minor disturbances to Dorking's peace by fighting, assaults, drunkenness, rowdy inns, domestic disputes and quarrelling neighbours. All were interwoven with his administrative functions of reporting to the Committee, taking his arrested offenders to the justices, attending before the Bench and the Sessions to give evidence and liaison with the parish constables of the villages around the town and further away.

He was a busy man. His workload was evidence of the emerging idea that the justice system – police and courts – could deal with these problems so that retaliating or taking the law into own hands could be avoided. As people saw what the Dorking officers could do from 1838 onwards one hopes that confidence in them grew. Although individuals had the ability to obtain their own arrest warrants, the increasing examples throughout the book of offenders being "given in charge" was a healthy sign.

Each one of the 231 pages in the occurrence book has examples of the work done, perhaps a thousand or so incidents and 800 people coming to notice. What can be highlighted is but a small sample.

Public House and Beer Houses: The town had twenty-three public and beer houses (including the House of Commons and the House of Lords), a large number for a small town. They were supervised daily, and detailed information was given of the visits made. For example, how many customers were present, male or female, what they were doing, whether smoking, drinking, singing, dancing, if music heard, or all quiet - as he puts it "all prety rigular." Hours were controlled (by the magistrates?), and he cautioned landlords that their hour was 9pm "instead of 10pm as they would wish to have it." The Ram was particularly irregular and rarely quiet. Each Sunday morning patrols visited the houses during Divine Service "and cautioned the landlords" to have quiet during what was obviously regarded as a sensitive time.

Minor Crimes: They were common, and many of them were detected in this small town where local knowledge was all, and often the complainant could name the offender. Burglaries, theft of metals such as pipes and door fitting, or lead from roofs and food stolen from shops and gardens, vagrancy offences, sleeping rough and begging were common, with an occasional army deserter. Most offences resulted in the offender's arrest and conveyance before a justice. Assaults and damage were frequent, often associated with drink, fighting in the street near pubs (fined 7/6), assault on a householder and damage to her house (fined 5/-), begging (14 days hard labour) and gypsy fortune-tellers (discharged and cautioned).

Drunkenness was common and fuelled many fights and assaults. Some offenders were taken to a justice, some locked up and allowed to go when sober. Two young women were found incapable after something had been put in their drinks, but this could not be proved and the Justice "with a good cautioning" released them.

Some unusual offences are mentioned. The superintendent had information that a Richard Trimby had issued counterfeit coins – half a crown, and a shilling – by asking for change in shops. He found him inside a limekiln at Dorking chalk pits. A justice committed him for trial at London Sessions where he got, remarkably, only 21 days solitary confinement because he was recommended for mercy, but it is not said why. In an odd coining offence, a traveller was arrested for "obtaining four pence for a half farthing" which obviously needed a gullible victim.[204]

Prostitution, perhaps here another indication of poverty, is mentioned several times. The superintendent was told that an old pensioner had been robbed of a £10 note, four sovereigns and some silver "by a prostitute that he went to bed with at the Black Horse." [205] but he found that both he and the women and gone off and could not be found. Another instance was when John Songhurst gave in charge Caroline Ashcroft, a prostitute, for picking his pocket of 2/- at the Beehive but the justice had to discharge her because Songhurst did not appear.[206] Elsewhere in the book prostitutes were picking pockets, creating a disturbance with obscene language and robbing a young man of his watch in the Rose and Crown yard on Christmas Day. A prostitute relieved a man of his purse in Black Horse Passage, and Jemima Steer, arrested for drunk and disorderly in South Street, was described as a prostitute.

Serious Crime: Occasional serious matters occur among the hundreds of minor offences, of which the following are examples.

Mr. Bravery was shot at when returning to Dorking from Horsham.[207] He told the superintendent that the offenders were Miles and Webb, and he locked them up while enquiries were made. No motive was given. The next day he took Mr. Bravery to the spot, with the suspects' boots as well, searching for footprints. Some were found at the spot but were too indistinct to match. A justice remanded them in custody and six days later three magistrates sitting at the Red Lion committed them for trial, instructing the superintendent to take all three to London that afternoon on the 4 o'clock coach. He spent the following two days at the Sessions, but annoyingly gave no result. He returned on the third day by the noon coach and was back in Dorking patrolling that afternoon and evening.

The superintendent tried to match boots to footprints on other occasions, without success, and common-sense investigation methods were seen elsewhere too. For example, he saw hay, which had been taken from land piled ready, he thought, to steal. He maintained a watch but before doing so put a note inside the hay to add strength to the evidence.

There was one manslaughter charge in the book.[208] After two drunks fought each other and one died "on the spot," the second, James Sayers, was arrested and kept in the Cage until the

[204] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 121
[205] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 65
[206] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 79
[207] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 25
[208] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 50

Coroner's Inquest. That took place three days later, recorded a verdict of manslaughter and he was committed on the Coroner's warrant for trial however since he was arrested for poaching not long after he was obviously acquitted.

There was one allegation of murder. Ellen Lee, a young woman, was arrested at Walton-on-the-Hill on suspicion of murder, "the body of a new-born male child having been found in the floodgate hole at Mr. George Dewdney's Mill." The superintendent and Ellen went to the Coroner's inquest at the Punch Bowl the following day and the Coroner ordered she be taken before a justice the day after for concealment of birth and to be committed for trial since no evidence had been found of a live birth. She appeared at Kingston Assizes a considerable time later and was acquitted.[209]

Robberies, or muggings, were occasional. The superintendent told how a drunken man complained he had been bundled into a field and robbed of all his cash, comb, pocketknife and tobacco box. He was put in the Cage to sober up while the superintendent looked for the three men, finding them in the Rose and Crown. One, Attree, had most of the property on him and the victim later identified all three. The superintendent went to the scene, where the victim's dog still waited, and tried his footprint matching technique, again without success. All three were committed to the London Sessions by a justice, and seven days later were each sentenced to 12 months hard labour.

Disorder: Minor disorders were frequent. Most were among noisy groups, fighting in the street, one instance of dog fighting (for gambling?) or arguments near the pubs, all dealt with by the superintendent moving them on, disrupting the groups and arresting if necessary. Squabbling neighbours, arguing families and spouses were common too. It is no surprise that drink was involved in most incidents.

At one point in the book Superintendent Donaldson reveals that he saw his role as ensuring that the greater public good prevailed over the individual's behaviour when the two were in conflict. "As I was passing Mr. King's shops there was a good number of people standing on the footpath on both sides of the Street opposite Mr. Attlee's, rather noisy and insulting a person that was passing on horse-back. As soon as I got near them, I requested them to go away off the footpath, which most of them did, except one that was very obstinate and the worse for liquor. He refused to go, I then pushed him twice which caused a great uproar amongst those who consider their freedom intruded upon by not being allowed to stand where they like and do as they think proper. A number got very insolent and was some time before they cleared off"[210]

Railway building had an effect on the town and its policing from 1848 onwards. Drunkenness, disorder and begging by navvies were particularly noticeable, and a "ganger on the line" was mentioned. Homeless and destitute Irish women and their children, perhaps travelling the country with the navvies, created work for the force and put a strain on the police and poor law

[209] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 159
[210] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 33

resources of Dorking.[211] This disorder of the travelling railway builders was, in hindsight, poignant given that it was those same disorders elsewhere that would lead to the superintendent's death seven years after he wrote of this.

The level of disorder was fairly constant through the year. Christmas Eve and New Year were no worse and, in fact, were not mentioned by name at all. Nothing changed on those days: the public houses opened throughout, patrolling and the same hours of duty were maintained by the policemen in the day and night as if they were normal days. No increase in street troubles was apparent in the books at these times. The same applied to Saturdays and to Shrove Tuesday, a day that was notorious in Dorking later in the century for disorder, near riots, around street football.

The entries in the book end abruptly on 3rd April 1849, although there presumably was another volume up to the formation of the Surrey Constabulary on 1st January 1851.

Service in the Surrey Constabulary

The story of the coming of the Surrey Constabulary in 1851 has been told elsewhere. An early reference to the arrival of officers in the countryside was reported in 1851 when in February the "Rural Police" arrived in Dorking: —-- The new rural police made their entrée into this town on Tuesday morning last, 12 in number, including the chief superintendent. They all seemed to be young men. They are to be drafted to the different neighbouring villages, with the exception of two, and the superintendent, who are to remain at Dorking. We sincerely hope that the new police will have as little to do, except perambulating the town, as our last respected police officer, Mr. Donaldson, who has lived amongst us upwards of 12 years, and to his credit be it stated, not a single robbery has been committed in the town during his sojourn; and he has left here much to the regret of the inhabitants" **[212]**

Donaldson was appointed an inspector in the new constabulary with the appointment number 89 followed by a quick change of postings to Chobham, Leatherhead, Horley and his fatal move to Haslemere

Drink and violence leading to the death of an Inspector

In 1855 work began on the new railway line to Portsmouth and scores of construction workers settled in the county. Known as 'Navvies' they had a total disregard for law and order and, quite often, would go on drunken rampages in large groups. Some of the members of the so-called Isaacs gang who robbed, burgled and murdered their way in Surrey and Sussex just five years before were Navvy constructors.

Family address in Haslemere was Cow Street also known as East Street (Petworth Rd)

[211] Transcript of the original occurrence book Mr. C.A. Willeard Page 195 onwards
[212] "The Surrey Standard" February 1851 photocopy of a note from Chris Atkins June 2010

1855 July 29 Inspector William Donaldson (44) Bludgeoned by a mob in Haslemere [213]

On July 29, 1855 at just after midnight Inspector Donaldson and Constable James Freestone were in the Market Place in Haslemere supervising the turning out of the public houses and enforcing the end of permitted hours. There was a report of trouble with "Navies" and Inspector Donaldson pushed his way into the crowd in the King's Arms to encourage them to leave. They would not go and trouble started which developed into a riot. One of the men who led the initial attack was arrested and taken to the lock-up in the Market Place. A marauding crowd armed with sticks and clubs surrounded the lock-up demanding the release of the prisoner. Mr Donaldson refused to release his prisoner, whereupon he was struck a serious blow to the head with a heavy iron bar leaving him on the ground bleeding profusely. Although fatally wounded he left the scene and was later found staggering about the street. He was helped back to his home where he died shortly before 3am.

Five men were charged with murder, four were convicted at Kingston Assizes of manslaughter. The ringleader Thomas Woods was sentenced to twenty years transportation, the others Eastman, Foyle and Blackman received six years penal servitude.

The full details of the trail and sentencing are readily to be found.

Funeral

On the following Friday, Inspector Donaldson was buried at St Bartholomew's Church. Whatever the neglect of future generations might be, the memory of his bravery was still fresh in the minds of the townspeople and his colleagues, and they united to give him a hero's funeral.

The Chief Constable was unable to attend, but most of his senior officers were there. Apart from the family mourners the coffin was followed by four of the five Divisional Superintendents, namely, Messrs Parr (Guildford), Burridge (Godalming), Everett (Farnham), and Page (Dorking). Then came Inspectors Frost and Murtell. Behind them marched a column of thirty-two constables, all wearing ceremonial mourning sashes. Following the police contingent came some fifty of the principal inhabitants, in procession, and behind them came all the townspeople who were not already lining the route to see the cortege pass. The shops of the town remained closed during the day, as a final tribute of respect and sympathy. At the Parish Church the Rector, the Reverend Hesse, was waiting to perform the burial service. In the Burial Register the event is recorded without any comment. 'No.892. William Donaldson, of Haslemere, aged forty-seven August 3rd 1855'. The Inspector's grave is not included in the list compiled at the close of the nineteenth century, and it is assumed that either no permanent memorial was erected, or that it was removed when the church was rebuilt in the eighteen-seventies.

[213] Surrey Police Roll of Honour Robert Bartlett May 2009

A public subscription was begun on behalf of the late Inspector's family, and later a petition was sent to the Home Secretary asking that his widow might receive a pension. At Dorking, where the Donaldsons were still remembered, Superintendent Page opened a separate appeal fund. Later in the year a public meeting resolved to invest the sum collected in Government Bonds, and to pay the interest to Mrs Donaldson during her lifetime, and after her death to share out the capital sum amongst the children.

PC James Freestone

Was with Inspector Donaldson and was badly was beaten

Appointment Number 120 of the Surrey Constabulary

PC James Freestone who was badly injured with Donaldson was born at Blythford (now Blyford) Suffolk in 1818. Eventually becoming a shoemaker. He was married with two children when he joined the Surrey Constabulary in 1852 having served in Suffolk County. He was promoted to a constable of the 2nd Class on 1 July 1855 after the killing of his inspector and moved to Horley. His injuries confined him to his bed for six weeks. His time at Horley did not go well. Three days after the trial on 10 December 1855, he was cautioned for neglect of duty but it is not known if that was connected to the case. His record shows three disciplinary offences of drunkenness prior to moving to Horley where he lapsed on the 6 February 1856 when he was dismissed from the service. [214] No one has questioned the courage and honesty of PC Freestone

1852 January 12 joined Surrey Constabulary: Age 34 in 1852, 5 feet 8 ½ inches, born Suffolk.

GO 78 May 1, 1852 on February 14, 1852 discipline offence with one previous report drunkenness; severely reprimanded and moved.

1853 September 10: Drunkenness Reduced 3rd to 2nd class constable

1853 November 6: Drunkenness moved from Dorking to Chertsey

GO117, 29 April 1854 non-attendance at conference point. Reprimanded and removed at own expense from Chertsey to Godalming divisions.

GO126 June 8, 1855 with three previous reports charged with drunkenness and fined £2

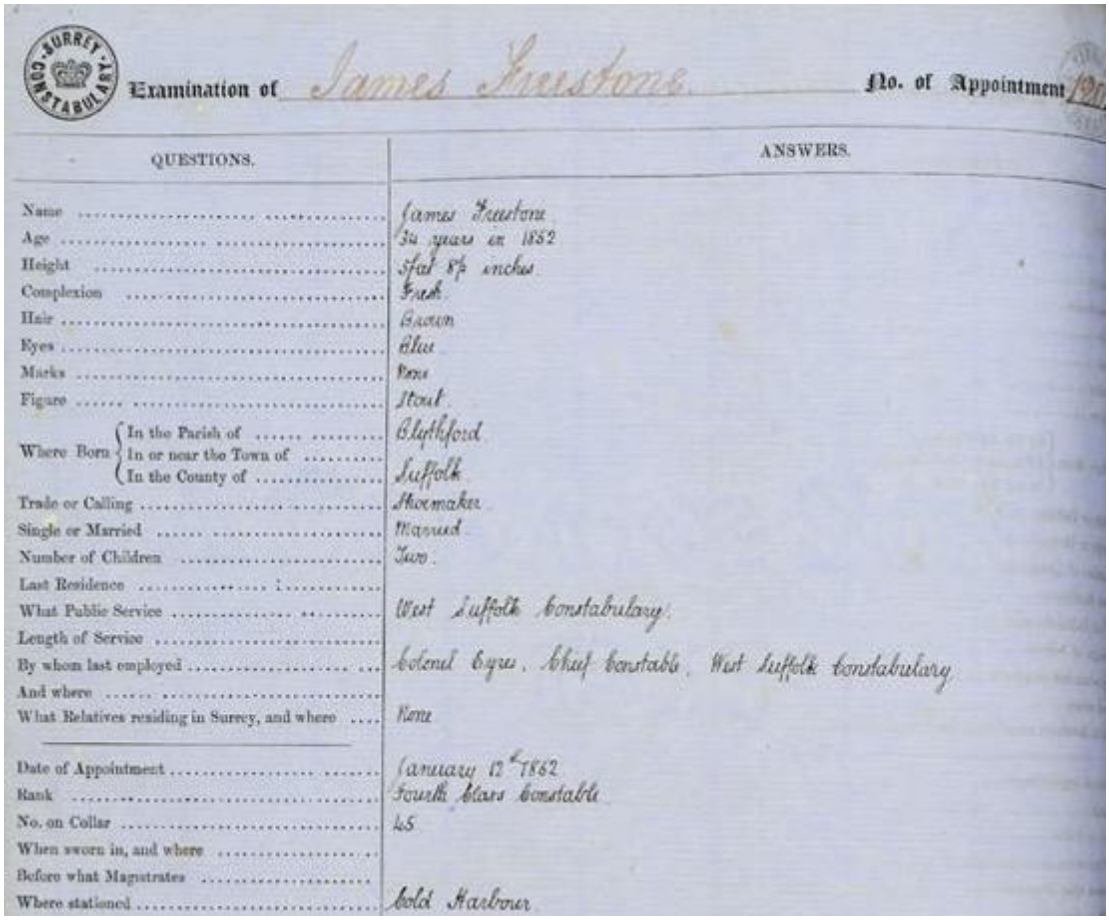
GO 122 James Freestone August 1, 1855 promoted from the Third to the Second Class and moved from Godalming to Reigate Division

[214] Inspector William Donaldson 1807-1855 Henry F Pelham 2015 (Private paper SCC archives Woking)

1855 December 10 neglect of duty – cautioned.

GO 136 February 5, 1856 Drunkenness – dismissed - conduct BAD

Extract from Defaulter's Register – wrongly filled in![215]

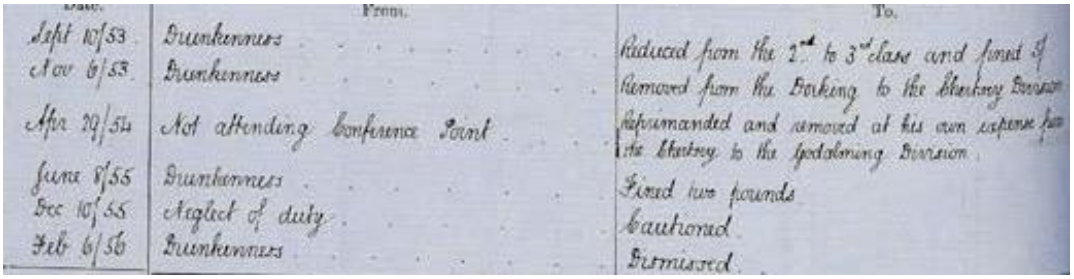


Examination of James Faustone. No. of Appointment

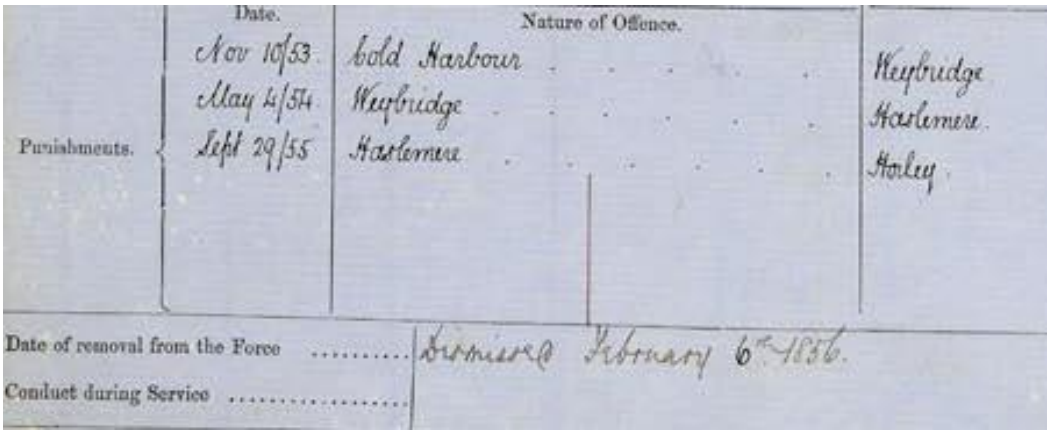
QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
Name	James Faustone
Age	34 years in 1852
Height	5 feet 8½ inches
Complexion	Dark
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Marks	None
Figure	Stout
Where Born — In the Parish of	Blythford
Where Born — In or near the Town of	
Where Born — In the County of	Suffolk
Trade or Calling	Shoemaker
Single or Married	Married
Number of Children	Two.
Last Residence	
What Public Service	West Suffolk Constabulary
Length of Service	
By whom last employed	Colonel Cyrus. Chief Constable West Suffolk Constabulary
And where	
What Relatives residing in Surrey, and where	None
Date of Appointment	January 12th 1852
Rank	Fourth Class Constable
No. on Collar	45
When sworn in, and where	
Before what Magistrates	
Where stationed	Gold Harbour

Date.	From.	To.
Nov 1/52.	Fourth Class Constable. . . .	Third Class Constable.
Aug 1/53.	Third Class Constable. . . .	Second Class Constable.
Aug 1/55	Third Class Constable . . .	Second Class Constable.

[215] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre. Register all same handwriting which is suspicious! Also filled in incorrectly listing discipline and not postings.



Date.	From.	To.
Sept 10/53	Drunkenness	Reduced from the 2nd to 3rd class and fined 5/
Nov 6/53	Drunkenness	Removed from the Dorking to the Thirsley Division
Apr 29/54	Not attending Confirmed Point	Reprimanded and removed at his own expense from the Thirsley to the Godalming Division
June 8/55	Drunkenness	Fined two pounds
Dec 10/55	Neglect of duty	Cautioned
Feb 6/56	Drunkenness	Dismissed



	Date.	Nature of Offence.	
Punishments.	Nov 10/53	Cold Harbour	Weybridge
	May 4/54	Weybridge	Haslemere
	Sept 29/55	Haslemere	Horley

Date of removal from the Force ..... Dismissed February 6th 1856.

Conduct during Service .....

Mrs Donaldson and her children

Mrs Donaldson gathered her children about her and left Haslemere forever. During her husband's service in the Surrey Constabulary the family had moved to a fresh posting each year, and the constant upheaval had made it difficult for them to establish personal relationships, as it was intended to do. Even before William Donaldson's career with the County Force ended so tragically, his wife must often have longed for the settled home and good friends they had known during their thirteen happy years at Dorking. Now, in the first anguish of her bereavement, it was to the kind hearts of the Mole Valley that she turned again. The census of 1861 shows Mrs Donaldson was living in Falkland Road, Dorking, still a pleasant part today. She is shown as having independent means, so it is to be hoped that the various funds, together with anything that a grateful nation or county might contribute, were sufficient to enable her to live comfortably. Of her five children, John and Elizabeth were living at home, while David, the eldest, was in private service in the town. During the 1860s both John and his sister Mary Ann were married from the house, John to an Elizabeth Taylor and Mary Ann to a James Cooke. The marriage register records the name and occupation of each person's father. It must have been a matter of pride, as well as sadness, for them to put down[216]

Jean Pelham November 2011: I have a burial record taken from the Parish Register of St Bartholomew's Church, Haslemere, but that is all I can find, I had hoped to be able to get a copy death certificate, but I am slowly coming to the belief that no death certificate was issued, they didn't become compulsory until the 1870's, so it might be the case that this wasn't done by the family or anyone else for that matter.

[216] Jean Pelham November 2011

The census records show the Inspector living with his wife Janet and children in Dorking. South Street in the 1841 census, then the 1851 in Bridge Street Leatherhead. Then Janet and the children move back to Dorking - Falkland Road soon after the Inspectors death. Janet's death is recorded in Holmesdale Road, Reigate in 1873.

Donaldson memorial at Mount Browne

Haselmere Church

Book of Remembrance held in Guildford Cathedral

Superintendent Charles Hollington
PC Metropolitan Police 1837-1841
Head Constable Guildford Borough Police 1841-1851
Superintendent Surrey Constabulary 1851 -1872
Enrolment number 82

Robert Bartlett. Precis of April 2019 in January 2021

1813 born Muswell Hill

Served Metropolitan Police A Division **1837 - 1841**

Guildford Borough Police **1841- February 15, 1851** as superintending constable

February 15, 1851 Surrey Constabulary enrolment number 82, Height 5 feet 10 inches Light brown hair Grey eyes with a scar on left brow

1851 Married no children**.**

1851 appointed as a superintendent on £85 per annum first station in the Surrey Constabulary, Chertsey then Godstone, Farnham, Godstone, Chertsey

GO 53 1 July 1851 appointed to Godstone Division

GO 130 24 October 1856 removed from Godstone to Farnham vice Everett dismissed.

1862 July 18 posted from Farnham to Chertsey following arrest of Colonel when every officer at Farnham was removed.
1864 December posted Godstone division

1870 October: back to Chertsey.

1872 August 31: Pension on retirement, superannuated at the rate of £73 per annum.

Hollington Comes to Guildford

On the 28 September 1841 Charles Hollington was appointed superintendent policeman and Head Constable of the Borough of Guildford at a wage of 25 shillings a week plus a house. Accommodation was taken on a temporary basis until 29 September when the house of Jeffrey's, Sergeant at Mace, was to be used as a police station in 1 Tunsgate behind the corn market, long since demolished. The officers broke their long working days with an hour for breakfast, an hour for lunch and half an hour for tea. At about the time he joined the budget for

the borough police in 1843 for "watching the borough" was £220. Such a sum would pay the wages in 1840 for 1100 days for a skilled tradesman or buy 14 horses, or 41 cows.[217]

Charles Hollington the chief officer of the Guildford Borough Police joined the new police force, Surrey Constabulary, on the 15th February 1851 with enrolment number 82, along with another member of his force PC Jeremiah Campbell enrolment 83. (Dismissed 1852 for neglect of duty)[218] Hollington was appointed as a superintendent on £85 per annum with his first station for only six months, Chertsey.[219]

Hollington was born in 1813 in Muswell Hill north London and was aged 38 in November 1851. On joining the Surrey Constabulary, he was recorded as being 5 feet 10 inches tall with light brown hair, grey eyes with a scar on left brow. He was married with no children. He served in the Metropolitan Police on A Division 1837 – 1841, a division where the tall men were posted and used in addition to their normal role as a public order reserve for the force and elsewhere.

Hollington was to serve until his retirement from the Surrey Constabulary on August 31, 1872 when he was superannuated at the rate of £73 per annum after a total of 35 years police service.

Superintendent Hollington was posted to the following stations: [220]

Date	From	To
July 9/51	Chertsey	Godstone
Oct 15/56	Godstone	Farnham
July 25/62	Farnham	Chertsey
Dec 17/64	Chertsey	Godstone
May 10/70	Godstone	Chertsey

Census records give a little more personal information on the Hollingtons:

1841 Census: Charles Hollington aged 27, police constable in the Metropolitan Police living at 13 Upper Crown Street, St Margaret's, in Westminster which appears to have been a section house for single officers. In 1838 Hollington was sent from London on aid to Birmingham during the Chartist disorders.[221]

1851 Census[222]: Charles Hollington age 37 born Middlesex had left the Borough and was now living with his wife Louise and a 15-year-old nephew at Gogmore Lane, Chertsey

[217] http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/currency-converter/#currency-result
[218] An Examination and Appointment register (Defaulter's Book), 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre Woking
[219] William Donaldson was appointment number 81 to the Surrey Constabulary aged 39 15 Feb 1851
[220] An Examination and Appointment register (Defaulter's Book), 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre Woking
[221] http://www.chartists.net/Policing-the-Chartists.htm#brum
[222] Research by John Molyneux a retired officer HO 107/1594

1861 Census[223]: Charles Hollington aged 47, living with his wife Louisa (Possibly Louise) at Park Place, Farnham with four prisoners so this was obviously the police station

1871 Census[224]**:** Charles Hollington Superintendent of Police aged 38 now at Eastworth Lane Police Station, Chertsey with a wife Catherine (his second wife) and daughter aged 1 year. There is a lunatic prisoner a bargeman William Burnett and two constables John D Warmar aged 27 from Sandwich Kent; Charles Cole aged 31 born Collingbourne, Wilts his wife Elizabeth and a daughter

Metropolitan Police officers in Birmingham, 1838

There is just one reference found to Hollington's time in the Metropolitan Police when he was a part of a contingent sent to Birmingham to police the Chartist Convention and disturbances in the town, 4-21 July 1838. Payments ranged from £17 0s 0d for the superintendent and inspectors, to between £4 5s 0d and £4 19s 0d for the others. Some were there 10 days, others for 17. [225]

In the 19th century change, if it happened at all, was very slow and so it is fair to assume that when Hollington became the chief officer of the Guildford Borough Police not much had been changed from the original establishment of the force in 1836.

The Watch Committee on the 15 January 1836 resolved and ordered that nine Constables and a superintendent be appointed for the Borough and the Town Clerk "do give notice in writing affixed to the Town Hall ---- and that any persons desirous of taking such office should send in their applications to the Town Clerk and attend the next meeting." The constables were appointed on the 18th January, at the next meeting Richard Jarlett chosen as the "Superintendent Constable" at a salary of £15 per annum. This was a part time role as, Jarlett continued as a High Street baker. The constables were to be paid 18 shillings a week in the summer and 21 shillings in the winter. On the 19th January it was ordered that the men who were already sworn in should start on the 20th January 1836[226].

There was a distinction between night constables and day policemen (who covered 0600-2000) with some of the former watchmen being appointed for the night-time.

The minutes of the Guildford Borough Watch Committee for the 18 January 1836 reveal: "was ordered that Charles Mandeville and James Wilkins be continued watchmen and appointed night constables of this borough at the salary of 18s in summer and 21s in winter."[227] The

[223] Research by John Molyneux a retired officer RG 9/428
[224] Research by John Molyneux a retired officer RG 10/812 RG 10 804 page 153
[225] Source: Pay list, National Archives, MEPO 2/63 http://www.chartists.net/Policing-the-Chartists.htm#brum
[226] They Guarded Guildford by Richard Ford Surrey 1969 internal publication Surrey Constabulary
[227] Charles Mandeville Guildford's first Policeman: Scholes Police History Society Journal 23 2008

following day the two men were sworn in as constables before the mayor. On the 1 February six pairs of handcuffs were ordered for the night constables.[228]

The Watch Committee decided that "a newly appointed constable in addition to his salary – be provided with clothes of the same description as the London Police provided the expense thereof does not exceed five guineas."[229]

On the 14 July a day constable was appointed, Philip Clarke at 17s 6d a week.

With Hollington in charge, closely supervised by the mayor and Watch Committee were reported in 1845 in "Russell's Guildford" [230] that the police of the Borough were a well governed and efficient body under the direction of the Mayor and Corporation consists of a superintendent, an inspector and three other officers who perform alternatively night and day duty. The police station is in Tun Gateway, at the back of the corn market and adjoining the town prison or cage.

Hollington doing his duty!

Much that is known of Hollington and his work as a police officer is to be found in newspaper archives. He may have been a chief officer but this did not stop him from being heavily involved in the rough and tumble of routine and exceptional policing events. These cases set out below are chance finds. There is little doubt that Hollington was a big, tough and brave police officer, used to violence who made the difficult move from being the senior man in a police force to being a subordinate to a martinet, Captain Hastings the Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary for 49 years. Many if not most of the officers transferring from the small borough forces in the county and those employed as permanent parish constables did not complete their pensionable service as members of the constabulary in fact some lasted months not years!

To date the earliest record of Hollington's activities relate to the year-on-year crisis of the Guildford Guy rioters, based around bonfire night although they seem to have caused trouble at any celebration. This was not what today would be called anti-social behaviour but high-level violence directed at the police and considerable damage caused to property by fire. The Guys dominated by their numbers, intimidating the residents of Guildford and outnumbering many times the number of police available to stop their drunken and riotous activities. It was a difficult and dangerous duty for police to perform. Though Hollington is described in a number of ways in the press reports the most common is inspector.

1843 November 13th Fireworks in Guildford: Magistrates Office Guildford: William Chennell and George Lee were summoned for letting off fireworks in the public street in

[228] Charles Mandeville Guildford's first Policeman: Scholes Police History Society Journal 23 2008
[229] Charles Mandeville Guildford's first Policeman: Scholes Police History Society Journal 23 2008
[230] Guildford City Outlook September 1932

disguise on the 6th inst. Charles Hollington Inspector of police deposed: I was on duty on the evening of the 6th inst., saw W. Chennell over the bridge in the parish of St Nicholas in disguise, let off a serpent; did not see Lee.

Cross examined by Mr Vincent: In my belief it was between one and two o'clock; certain it was between hours of twelve and two; did not see W. Chennell do any mischief.

Jeremiah Campbell, policeman examined - I was on duty in the evening of the 6th inst., between ten and eleven o'clock when I saw Lee against the Upper Church and spoke to him; he was letting off serpents and had on a soldier's cap and coat with a corporal's strips across the sleeves. Cross examined by Mr Vincent- there were a great many others letting them off; I afterwards saw him on The Mount dressed in a frock coat. Charles Mandeville, policeman examined - On the evening of the 6th inst., I saw Lee sitting on a carpenter's bench, which he had been attempting to be brought to the fire but was stopped; he had on a frock coat, the same as he has on at present.

Thomas High policeman examined - I saw Lee sitting on the bench. He said, "Let us have it and we will pay for it."

Mr Vincent then called for the defence. G. Peters a carpenter, who said I was at the Queen's Head at a quarter past eight o'clock in the evening of the 6th inst., Police No 2 (High) came in and put his hand on Lee's shoulder and said, "Don't be too fast, I have orders for you to let them off if you keep out of mischief" Lee answered all right, very well."

Mr Vincent addressed the Magistrates hoping they would take into consideration that although bills had been issued every year warning them of its illegality, yet no one had been convicted for the last 14 or 15years; and as the police had informed them that no notice would be taken this year, they had a right to suppose such would be the case. The Magistrates having consulted said they had determined to put it down therefore should make an example by fining each of the defendants the penalty of £3.[231]

The same evening's riotous behaviour led to a further court case involving Hollington. **1843 November 21** Guildford Magistrates: George Ketcher, James Lovel and Hugh Moth (sic) Keene and John Barker (?) was summoned for assaulting and resisting police in the execution of their duty on the evening of the 6th inst.

Charles Hollington sworn - Between ten and eleven on the evening 6th inst., I went to help put the fire on the Mount out and was prevented by a number in disguise; I had my hat knocked off; at last, I broke through the ring and kicked the fire out but finding the mob was too strong for us, we walked away down the hill, when we were knocked down several times and pelted with fireworks; Loveland and Ketcher were there and held them in my face. I got out my staff

[231] Sussex Advertiser *21 November 1843*

and struck Loveland when they cried "muster" and we were surrounded and I received a severe burn which continues to get worse. Cross-examined by Mr Vincent – Did not see Keene do anything; he was only with the crowd.

Charles Mandeville (PC) stated – About eleven o'clock I saw parties over the bridge squibbing Hollington. I took hold of Loveland when several stones were thrown at me, and could not tell by whom, being afraid to look round, fearing they would hit me in the face.

Jeremiah Campbell (PC) saw Bowler at the fire taking an active part. Thomas High, examined, they threw stones and pushed us about and tried to get us on the fire.

The magistrates convicted Ketcher and Loveland in the penalty of £5 the latter in default of payment was committed to the House of Correction to hard labour for one month. Keene and Bowler after being admonished and warned as to their conduct another year were discharged. [232]

1843 November 21: In a further case heard that day before Guildford Magistrates: John Jackson, Charles Wheatly and James Ketcher were summoned for assisting in making fire, commonly called a "bonfire" on the 6th instant.

C. Hollington sworn – Saw Jackson and Wheatley carrying some tow dipped in oil or turpentine and slung to some wire, up and down the High Street; they laid it down opposite the Wheat Sheaf where I saw the fire break out; I afterwards saw Jackson with 13 or 14 others disguised, loaded with wood which they placed on the fire.

Mr Vincent – tell me what you saw Wheatley do? I saw him with Jackson when tow tow [233] was placed but cannot say which placed it.[234]

Thomas High examined - I saw all three defendants at the fire; Jackson had some lighted tow and laid it down; saw Ketcher pick up a hat and was running away with it when he took it from him. Jackson said to him "You shan't put the fire out; he did not care for any of them; his name was Jackson and he would have a fire.

Ketcher in his defence said he was standing at the fire and picked up a hat when he was pelted and burnt by the mob who thought he was one of the hired and was running away when he was stopped.

Jackson was fined £5 or be imprisoned for three months. Wheatley fined 10s or be imprisoned for 14 days and Ketcher was discharged.

[232] 1843 November 21 Sussex Advertiser
[233] Possibly some form of rope
[234] 1843 November 21 Guildford Magistrates Sussex Advertiser

William Chennel and George Lee were on refusing to pay on Saturday morning consigned to "durance vile" in the station house being committed to Kingston Gaol. During the busiest time in our market two vehicles driven by two police constables made their way through the crowd on their road to Kingston where it appears the amounts were paid and a conveyance had already arrived to take them back again. They returned at about eleven o'clock when a band of music and a host of their previous companions were in readiness to meet them and march them through the streets. The town was in complete uproar for some time and we regret to say the whole of the windows as well as some of the window frames in the residence of the police inspector were completely destroyed and many panes of glass in the windows of the first floor of the late mayor's residence as also some in the newly elected mayor's house were broken.

The killing of a gamekeeper

The investigation into the death of a gamekeeper at Wonersh bring together Hollington and his counterpart William Biddlecombe from the borough of Godalming police, a force of two men.

In 1841 a police station was built in Godalming and the two regular policemen (Biddlecombe and a constable named Lindsey) lived on the premises. The station house was in Moss Lane and contained three cells capable of handling nine prisoners. The borough petitioned to have its own court, which was granted in 1847. Records for the 12 months to the end of November 1848 showed that 63 cases had been dealt with involving 87 prisoners. Biddlecombe is described in the newspapers as "extremely active," shorthand for a good detective,[235] and amassed a wealth of experience through a wide range of investigations.

Biddlecombe and Hollington were to work together on many significant cases and both were to join the Surrey Constabulary as superintendents upon formation. They may have been contemporaries, even good friends but were in fact competitors in the way particularly Hollington competed for plaudits, recognition, which probably equalled reward money. This becomes clearer in the letters to the newspapers in 1851, which will be set out below.

1844: Wonersh death of a gamekeeper: This death indicates that not only being a gamekeeper was probably the most dangerous job in the country but also shows the level of co-operation between the borough police of Guildford and Godalming. It also gives Biddlecombe the man in charge of the Godalming police and already an acknowledged and successful investigator his first murder enquiry. Biddlecombe is an important man in the history of policing in Surrey and can rightly be called Surrey's first detective.

At the Surrey Spring Assizes in Kingston on the 27 March James Elsley was charged with the wilful murder of James Edwards a gamekeeper, in Wonersh by the Wey and Arun Canal. The body was discovered in the canal the following morning and the alarm was raised. There was obviously some good local information a soon after Charles Jenkins, described in a press report

[235] The term detective was not yet in use

as an Inspector of Police stationed at Shere [236] accompanied by the Chief Constable of Godalming William Biddlecombe and possibly Jenkins senior, went to the home of the suspect. He was detained and taken to the Jolly Farmer at Bramley. The officers returned to the house and searched it recovering a newly washed smock with blood on it and other clothing. Both the officers undertook a detailed examination of the prisoner and could find no evidence of him having been involved in a fight.

Elsley was arrested and taken to Guildford where Inspector Charles Hollington detained him on the Saturday night. Hollington left an unemployed labourer to watch over the prisoner. On the Sunday Elsley confessed to the labourer that he had killed the gamekeeper – he had hit him with his rifle butt and kicked him into the river. The labourer did not tell of the confession and when on Monday Hollington saw him, the prisoner confessed for the second time. The inspector then went to Elsley's home and recovered two pheasants from where the prisoner had said they were. The jury took 20 minutes to find the prisoner not guilty of murder but of manslaughter and this married man; father of five or six children was transported for life.[237]

On a daily basis Hollington was involved in policing the Borough. Rarely high-level crime, but the routine of drunks, homeless vagrants, violence and petty offences the control of which are essential if society was to function in an orderly manner. Records of the daily life of policing in the Borough do not exist. There is nothing similar to the chance survival of the Donaldson occurrence books from Dorking police. Therefore, there is a reliance on newspaper reports. It would be tedious for the average reader if all those reports were transcribed but some have been found and are within this short biography of Hollington.

1844 November 19 Sussex Advertiser: George Penton one of the railroad excavators was brought up in custody charged by Inspector Hollington with having been **drunk and disorderly** and with assaulting him in the execution of his duty.

Inspector Hollington deposed: I heard a disturbance on Saturday night and ongoing to the spot I found the prisoner and several others fighting. I tried for above half an hour to disperse the crowd that was gathered and succeeded in getting them all away but the prisoner, who told me he had as good a right to be there as I had. At length I persuaded him to depart and he seemed to go along towards Woodbridge but returned and became very violent. I found that it was necessary to lock him up and on taking him into custody he was very violent and put one of my fingers out. He was drunk at the time."

The prisoner denied having created any riot and said that the policeman pushed him about. He had only had two pints of porter. He had never been before the magistrates before and promised to be careful not to be so again. Inspector Hollington said he did not wish to press the charge

[236] Elsewhere he is described as from the A Division, which presumable is the Metropolitan Police and happened to be in the area. At the Assizes on giving evidence, he describes himself as "I am the inspector of police stationed at Shere". Quite who he is has not been revealed!
[237] The Morning Post (London, England), Thursday, March 28, 1844; Issue 22841. 19th Century British Library Newspapers: Part II

of assault if the prisoner would promise not to offend again in future. This promise having been given the Magistrates fined him the sum of 5s cautioning him that in assaulting the police in the execution of their duty he made himself liable to a penalty of £5, or three-months imprisonment. [238]

1845 March 4: Offences against the Game Laws: James Dallen was brought up in custody by Inspector Hollington charged with an offence against the game laws in the parish of Albury, on the 22 December last. The prisoner had been summoned before the magistrates but having neglected to attend a warrant was issued for his apprehension.

Edmund Hook deposed that on the 22 December last he saw the prisoner in the company of another man whom he did not know beating about for game. On Albury Downs, the prisoner had nets with him which he placed over places where the hares were likely to run, and then went to the opposite side and beat the furze so as to drive them into the nets. Witness watched him for up to an hour and after he left the downs, he met him and challenged him with the offence. The prisoner did not deny it but told the witness if he had found a hare, he would have killed it. The prisoner said in defence that he had gone onto the downs to get a little holly for Christmas and denied having told the witness he would have killed a hare had he seen one. When Hook met him and accuse him of having flams (nets) in his possession he (the prisoner) asked him to search for them as he had none but Hook would not do this and only gave the information to "spite" him. The bench considered the case proved and fined the prisoner 20s including costs, or, in default to be committed for 14 days to the house of correction. The prisoner could not pay the fine and was removed in custody.[239]

1845 April 8: Felony: On Saturday a young woman named Ann Bicknell was brought up at the police office before the Mayor, W. King Esq., charged with having robbed her master Mr Peter Austen of 18 High Street. Mr Austen on being sworn deposed I am a grocer residing and carrying on business at 18 High Street, Guildford in the parish of Holy Trinity and the prisoner was employed by me as a servant. On the 27 inst., she was sent on an errand to exchange some money and on her return a shilling was not accounted for. In consequence of this misunderstanding, I thought it better to discharge her from my service and I did so. I paid her what wages were due to her and she went away leaving behind her box and a bundle which were called for during the day by some man but I refused to let them go – thinking it desirable to have them searched as the key was missing.

Inspector Hollington was called and when the girl arrived and her property searched a number of items belonging to her employer were found. Inspector Hollington deposed that on the 28th that in the presence of the prisoner he searched the box and found two cotton kerchiefs, a waistcoat a piece of cariet (?) a pocketbook and a parasol all of which I produce and which have been identified by Mr Austen as his property. There were also in the box a piece of cheese,

[238] 1844 November 19 Sussex Advertiser
[239] 1845 March 4: South Eastern Gazette

some bacon, sugar, four eggs and a bottle of wine. The prisoner had nothing to say in her defence and was committed for trial at the ensuing sessions. Bailed with sureties.[240]

1845 April 22: Sheep worrying in Guildford: Thursday before W King Esq., mayor, C. Booker and J. Hayden Esqs. A man named John Jones was brought up in custody under the following circumstances. Inspector Hollington deposed that on the previous night about half past eleven o-clock he was attending to his duty down the Woodbridge Road near the gate lodge of Mr RD Mangles, when police constable Jeremiah Campbell and two young men in the service of Mr Lyon, butcher, of High Street came up to him and questioned him if he had seen a lamb run by, pursued by a large black and white dog. He had seen neither and asked Campbell the particulars. The constable informed him that some short time previously he had observed a large black and white dog running after some sheep and lambs belonging to Mr Lyon and that he (the constable) had entered the field to drive the dog away but in the meantime the animal had contrived to single a lamb out from amongst the flock and gave it chase around the field. By the time the constable had crossed the field both lambs and dog had disappeared he knew not wither. Upon this he had gone and informed Mr Lyon of the circumstances and with the assistance of two of his men they had been making a search. Nothing more was seen of the missing lamb.

A little before one o'clock Hollington was passing up Chertsey Street and observing a light in a cellar belonging to a butcher names Stainton he looked down and there he observed the prisoner very busy skinning a lamb which had been recently slaughtered. Suspecting that all was not right the placed a constable on the watch and proceeded for one of Mr Lyon's men who on peeping into the cellar said he thought that the skin being taken off was marked like is master's sheep. Upon examination it proved to be the one, which had been lost in the field that night. Mr Lyon attended to identify the skin, which was produced. PC Campbell corroborated the evidence of Inspector Hollington.

The prisoner urged in defence that he was in the taproom of The Bell public house at 11 o'clock on the previous night when someone came in and said there was a lamb in the yard. He went out and found the lamb in question there. It was bleeding very much as though a dog had worried it. He then turned it into an outhouse where it remained until Stainton the butcher came into the tap to whom he told what had happened. They went together and looked at it and they agreed that if it was not killed shortly it would bleed to death. Stainton agreed to kill it and asked the witness to go and assist him, which he forthwith agreed. In this statement the prisoner was borne out by Stainton and by Mrs Chamberlayne the landlady of The Bell who heard a female acquaintance of hers named Oliver tell Jones of the lamb in the yard.

The police also produced the dog, which was somewhat notorious for his night walking habits and belonged to a person who lived on Shalford Common. Found not guilty but the prisoner and Stainton cautioned to be more careful in future. If their statement was true in all its points still, they acted wrongly in killing the lamb for they should have informed the police of the

[240] Sussex Advertiser 08 April 1845

circumstances. It did not appear either that the lamb was in such great danger of bleeding to death as there were but two or three spots of blood visible in the Bell yard. The owner of the dog was also cautioned not to let him be at large in future as there was no telling what mischief may result.[241]

1846 January 13: Trial for Theft: Thomas Cowdery aged 20 was charged with stealing a coat the property of Richard David Kidd at Godalming on the 22nd December. Mr Locke conducted the prosecution.

Charles Hollington Chief Constable of Guildford deposed he went to the shop of Mrs Butcher in High Street, Guildford when he saw the prisoner exchanging the coat, which he for some shoes; knowing it to have been stolen, he took the prisoner into custody.

Richard Driver Kidd, being a Quaker, affirmed that himself and some friends went to the house of Mr Keene at Godalming on the evening of Monday 22 December last, he left his coat and hat in the hall; when about to depart they were both missing. The coat produced was his property. Six months Hard Labour.

1846 January 13: Edward Smith a sickly-looking youth was charged with stealing a coat the property of Frederick Smallpiece and a hat the property of Richard Driver Kidd from the house of Mr Keene at Godalming on 22 December last. The case was very similar to the last, the hat belonging the prosecutor in the last case and the coat to Mr Smallpiece. They were stolen from the hall of Mr Keene where the prosecutors had been visiting on the night in question.

William Henry Biddlecombe Inspector of police deposed that having received information of the robbery he went to the house of the prisoner's father who kept a marine store shop at Leatherhead. Saw the prisoner and his mother who denied they had such a coat or hat in their possession Upon looking round the room however he discovered the hat and on searching the bedroom found the coat concealed in the bed clothes. He took the prisoner into custody. Cross examined: Leatherhead is 17 miles from Godalming.

Charles Hollington corroborated the evidence and Messrs Smallpiece and Kidd identified the coat and hat as their property. The defence was that Smith was at home on the night of the robbery and the coat had been purchased by way of trade by his father. The Chairman commented that after hearing the evidence the charge should have been receiving and the jury acquitted the prisoner.[242]

1846 November 10: Mayford: Biddlecombe and Hollington stolen copper and gang of sheep stealers Mayford – on Wednesday last Mr W H Biddlecombe, superintendent of the Godalming borough police, in consequence of information he had received, searched the river running from Mayford to near Guildford and by the aid of sticks and poles pointed with iron,

[241] Sussex Advertiser 22 April 1845
[242] 1846 January 13 South Eastern Gazette

he found one of the large coppers recently reported to have been stolen from the premises of Mr John Marratt and for the discovery of which a reward of £15 was offered. On the morning of the following day Mr Biddlecombe accompanied by Mr Constable Hollington, superintendent of Guildford police proceeded to Farnham and searched the broker's shops there. They succeeded in finding several parts of the other copper but the greater part had been forwarded to Southampton. Mr Biddlecombe is in possession of information which implicates some persons already undergoing punishment for another offence; and to who a portion of clothing was found which had been taken from a shop at Bisley which was entered and the articles in question, with a quantity of provisions stolen.

They also formed a party belonging to a regularly organised gang of sheep stealers of whom three were tried at the last Kingston Sessions and convicted, and all of them were sentenced to fifteen years transportation. They had long infected the neighbourhood of Woking, Weybridge, Worpleson and the western parts of Surrey, and by the confession of one of the parties implicated they had stolen two sheep every week for the last eight weeks before their apprehension by Mr Biddlecombe. In fact, this fellow has confessed that half the stolen sheep in the county of Surrey were stolen by this gang. Great credit is due to Mr Biddlecombe for his activity in searching out these midnight depredators, who were a pest to the farmers of Surrey. [243]

1847 Horsley: This case is outside the Borough but there was still no police force in the county just the parish constable and the magistrate although it was possible to call on the Metropolitan Police for assistance through the Home Secretary. This is a case where Inspector Hollington assisted the county magistrates with a serious assault on two gamekeepers. [244]

The following is taken from newspaper reports: **Apprehension of two men for stabbing two gamekeepers:** On Friday evening between the hours of seven and eight o'clock Mr Charles Hollington inspector of the Guildford Police with the assistance of some gunners from the Royal Artillery, succeeded in apprehending Arthur and Reginald Bristow who are charged with stabbing two gamekeepers named George Target and James Martin at Horley (sic) (should be Horsley) near Guildford on the 9th instant. A reward of £100 was offered by the Home Office for the apprehension of the prisoners and Inspector Hollington traced them first to Bristol and afterwards to London and Woolwich at which latter place he did apprehend them at the Crown and Cushion public house. His enthusiasm may be associated with his being allowed to keep all or part of the reward. The detained men were brought to trial at Kingston Assizes on March 30, 1848.

1848 trial stabbing poachers Horsley: Reginald 24 and Arthur Bristow 27, labouring brothers were indicted for feloniously cutting and wounding George Target a gamekeeper with intent to murder him. There were other charges on the indictment including Grievous Bodily Harm with intent and resisting their detention. Target told the court that he was doing his rounds when he

[243] South Eastern Gazette 10 November 1846
[244] Glasgow Herald Friday, October 29, 1847

found three dead hares snared in a copse called Henley Coppice in West Horsley. He and an under-keeper named James Martin laid up overnight to watch the hares. At about six in the morning the two prisoners came into the coppice and went to the snares but stopped, appeared to whisper and ran off. The men were chased to a turnip field where they turned and faced their pursuers with large knives in their hands, as used for killing pigs. Reginald threatened Target that he would dig the knife into him if he came forward but the keeper closed with the man and a scuffle took place during which Target was stabbed in the side. Target retained hold of his prisoner and they both fell down and Reginald stabbed him again, this time on the wrist. He was then upon his knees and the blood was running from him like a "stuck pig" and judging he was too weak to continue the contest he called out "I am done, I give it up." As this was going on Harris was fighting with Arthur Bristow but Target became too weak to be conscious of what was happening until a cart came to carry him away.

Target visited Guildford Gaol six weeks after the event and identified the prisoners. Martin gave evidence and corroborated Target adding that once he could get to his assistance, he thought Target was dead. The witness agreed that his master gave half a sovereign when a poacher was apprehended for a night poacher £2 and a £1 for a day poacher. The keeper was paid a £1 a week. The defence was based around a lack of evidence that the men had been poaching and that the keepers had no right to detain them.

The judge in summing up said it was the custom for the counsel of a prisoner in cases of this description to endeavour to prejudice the mind of the jury by the comments on the supposed injustice of the game-laws. So far as he was concerned if he had a million acres of land, he should not think of preserving a single head of game. But if the gentlemen chose to do so they did it under the protection of the law and while the law was in existence, they were entitled to the protection it afforded them. The jury after a short deliberation found the men guilty of intent to cause grievous bodily harm and they were transported for fifteen years. [245]

1848 November 28: Stolen Guildford: Tuesday 21st before Guildford Borough Police Court: George Brisk was charged with having in the parish of Stoke in the borough of Guildford stolen one saw, one carpenter's plane and one crowbar the property of his employer Mr William Strudwick. Having missed the tools Mr Strudwick went to the prisoner's lodgings next to the yard where he found the missing property. Superintendent Hollington was informed and traced the prisoner to Sutton about four miles from Guildford. He was committed for trial . [246]

1849 November 13 Uttering counterfeit coin: County Magistrates Court: John Fisher, John Canefield and William Purchase three men respectably attired were brought up in custody by Inspector Hollington charged with uttering counterfeit coin.

[245] The Morning Chronicle (London, England), Friday, March 31, 1848
[246] Sussex Advertiser 28 November 1848

Mary Ann Hill sworn: My husband keeps the Rose and Thistle public house at Frimley. On Thursday last at about twelve o'clock at noon the three prisoners drove up to my house with a horse and gig and put up there; they bought some mutton chops in and asked me to cook them; I did so and they all partook of them; Canefield had some ale and a pipe and tobacco. They kept going out into the yard and stable one or other of them; they ordered tea to be ready for them at four o'clock; Canefield and Purchase then went to put the horse in as they were going a little way, Fisher went into the garden; Fisher and Canefield came into the house when the horse and gig were ready at the door. Fisher asked what there was to pay; Canefield was in the bar with him. I told them three shillings and two pence. Fisher threw down a bad crown piece, which I took up, and gave him one shilling and ten pence I change. It was then between one and two o'clock. Canefield was to remain in the house and the others were to return to tea at four o'clock. Canefield however got up into the gig and drove away with the others. I put the crown piece into my pocket and about 25 minutes after the prisoners had gone Mr Minis a farmer at Frimley came into the house and asked me if any persons had been here with a grey horse and gig. I said "yes" he then asked me if I would look at the money, I had taken from them. I did so and I then discovered that the crown piece was a bad one. I had no other crown pieces either in my pocket or in the house. On the following morning I gave the crown piece to Mr Minis and the one now produced is the same.

Mr John Minis gave evidence that he was a farmer at Frimley and he had been in the Jolly Farmer at Frimley when the landlady Mrs Crocker showed him a bad half-crown given her by three gentlemen with a grey horse and gig. He took his horse and cart and went after the three men and when he got to the Rose and Thistle, he found Mrs Hall had taken a bad crown piece. He came into Guildford to Hollington's the policeman and they went in search of the prisoners who were apprehended in Cobham.

The prisoners were remanded in custody till Saturday week to allow time for communication with the Mint authorities. [247]

1850 27 September 0300: Murder of the Rev. George Hollest: This is a long and complicated story involving four men who were a part of the Isaacs Gang and residents of Guildford well known to the police and their community as criminals. The rivalry between Hollington of Guildford and Biddlecombe of Godalming spilt over into letters to the Times about who made the most contribution to the arrest of the murderers. At the stage the letters were written the two men were senior colleagues in the Surrey Constabulary. [248]

Mrs Hollest was later to give evidence about the night of her husband's murder when she and her husband were in bed at about three in the morning. "I noticed an increase of light in the room but could not perceive how it was occasioned." There were curtains around the bed but they were open at the foot. Reaching from her bed to ring for the servant she was grabbed by a

[247] Sussex Advertiser 13 November 1849
[248] 1850 26th Sept Janaway 75. Murder of Reverend George Hollest – Frimley and many other sources

masked man. As she tried to scream a second man grabbed the Reverent and they were warned by the armed men to be silent or they would have their brains blown out. However, both continued to struggle.

Mrs Hollest was forced to the floor in the narrow space between bed and wall. Unable to see her attacker she was struck by his distinctive squeaky voice. She then heard a pistol fired and she struggled to reach her husband whilst one of the burglars hung onto her around the waist pushing a pistol into her side. The burglar caught his food on the washstand and tripped and Mrs Hollest was able to ring the servant's bell to raise the alarm and the intruders began to flee.

Mr Hollest then went to his dressing room to fetch his handgun, which he always kept loaded there because of the fear of burglar. He pursued the intruders out through the front of the house whilst Mrs Hollest watched from an open window as the three men ran out to join a fourth – one turned and looked directly at her and she took fright and withdrew slamming shut the window.

A few minutes later her husband returned and calmly informed her "The fellow has shot me" Mrs Hollest saw that he was bleeding from the stomach and her servant Giles was dispatched to fetch both the local surgeon and parish constable. Not an easy thing to do when you know out there close by was a gang of armed and very dangerous criminals. Locking the staircase door in case the men returned Mrs Hollest tried to stem the flow of blood. The injury was from the shot fired in the bedroom but so intent was the vicar on protecting his household he had not realised he had been shot.

Dr Davies found the vicar in bed, in good spirits not fearing he would die. He discovered a gunshot wound about an inch below the navel and realised the injury was very serious indeed and the doctor stayed with him until he died at 1pm the following day. Dr Davies undertook the PM and recovered a marble from the abdomen.

There was no local police force and so the neighbourhood magistrates summoned Inspector Biddlecombe from Godalming to help and the Home Secretary sent Sergeant Kendall from London. Inspector Hollington became involved of his own volition. (For the press ranks were arbitrary and changed often within one story)

At the case before the Assizes in Kingston the Guildford men were on trial for their lives when Charles Hollington gave evidence: "In September last I was superintendent of the Guildford police. I heard of the burglary at Mr Hollest's the next morning and immediately made some enquiries about Levi Harwood, Jones and Smith. I saw Jones about the middle of the day in High Street, Guildford. I and Biddlecombe went on Sunday morning to Mr Hollest's and when we returned, we took Smith, Jones and Levi Harwood into custody. I told them I wanted them on suspicion of burglary at Mr Hollest's at Frimley and asked them to account for their time on the Friday night as I had learned they were out. Harwood said he went to London that night and Jones said he went up on the downs to set a few wires to catch a rabbit."

"On the 30 September I took Samuel Harwood into custody and on this day, Levi Harwood told me he would account for his time on Friday night and he said that he came down from London. I told him he was right about that and that he arrived at about eight o'clock to which he replied, "You know as much as I do." I searched the prisoners at the station. Upon Levi Harwood I found two sovereigns, one shilling, a sixpence and a knife. Upon Smith I found half a crown, a tobacco box, a knife and a piece of string. Upon Jones I found a cloth, a piece of sealing wax, and the token penny which has been produced. I afterwards searched Levi Harwood's lodgings and found a pair of stockings, on the foot of one of which there was a mark of blood and also a "stony" marble. I had previously examined Levi Harwood's feet. And found that the right one was cut in several places and there was blood between the toes. After Levi Harwood was in custody, I examined his shirt and found some marks of gravel upon his left sleeve."

"On the 2 October I searched Samuel Harwood's lodgings at Hyfield-green and found a box at Mrs Catt's which belonged to him and from which I took a corduroy jacket. I had seen Levi Harwood wear a similar jacket. It appeared to me as though it had been recently washed. Levi Harwood afterwards claimed the jacket to be his."

On questioning by the court Hollington responded, "I was not engaged on the matter. I engaged myself. I don't remember having heard of any paper or wadding which was supposed to have been discharged from the pistol, being found by the side of the bed. I may have heard of such a thing but I don't recollect it. I don't know that any paper was compared with any paper found in possession of some of the prisoners. **There was a little rivalry between me and Biddlecombe upon the subject of the case and we have never acted together since.** I did not give the prisoners any caution before I put the questions to them. Smith made a statement to me and I have no doubt he told me that it was their intention to have done the robbery on the Tuesday. What he said was "We arranged to commit the robbery on Tuesday." I believe a person named Macy was examined as a witness before the magistrates. I cannot say if he has been before the Grand Jury or not. I heard some man state that Smith had said something about the person being a tight fit, and that he would not give him any "chuck." Some persons named Penny, Blackman and a broom maker were also examined I believe. I don't know if any of these persons are here today. **Biddlecombe and I used to be friends and we have quarrelled about this case.** I wanted all the prisoners and Biddlecombe wanted them too but I thought I had the best right to them. I am on very good terms with Biddlecombe now because we never speak (laugh). I know there is a reward of £150 offered on the case, which is to be paid on conviction of the parties. Smith asked me the meaning of the word accomplice and I believe he also asked me if I thought they would fulfil the promise contained in the bills if he was to "peach?" I have no doubt he used the word "peach." The prisoners were not allowed to have any professional advice until after Smith had made a statement of which he represented to be the circumstances of the robbery."

Louisa Hollington the wife of Superintendent Charles Hollington gave evidence: On the 2nd of October while Levi and Samuel Horwood were in custody in separate cells at the Guildford Police Station, she heard Levi Harwood call out "Tidler" and Samuel Harwood reply "Hello

who is that?" Levi said "Me!" Samuel replied, "Is it Bony?" Levi "Yes." Samuel "Come here." Levi said, "I cannot. I am locked up." Samuel then asked him where he was taken and Levi gave a response Mrs Hollington could not hear. Levi asked if they had found anything on him and he said they had not. They had only taken 8d. He next asked whether they had searched two places the names of which she could not distinguish and he replied "No, that's all right. Goodnight Tidler." Levi called out Tidler again and said, "Put your mouth down, and don't speak too loud or else Mrs Hollington will hear you." Levi Harwood then asked him if he had told them that the jacket belonged to him and Samuel replied that he had and Levi asked what he did that for, and Samuel said it had been done that morning. Levi then asked if the jacket had been wrung out and Samuel replied that it was and Levi said that was all right.

In cross examination, Mrs Hollington: I had no desire to take any advantage of the prisoners and I told the prisoner Levi Harwood several times that a still tongue makes a wise head. I heard there had been a reward of £150 offered in this case but I do not know who is to get it. There are so many things in law that it is hard to say how it will be disposed of. I have never had any conversation with my husband about the reward. He expects some of it very probably. Biddlecombe also no doubt expects to get some of the reward. I think my husband is entitled to the reward whether he gets it or not. I was not examined before the magistrates. I heard all the conversations and my husband knew of it; yet I was not examined as a witness and the prisoners had no means of knowing what I was to prove. I wrote down the conversation but have since lost the paper. I rather think I burned the paper not thinking the contents were of consequence. I have not before been engaged to listen to conversations of this kind and have never been reprimanded for doing so.

The Surrey Constabulary incorporated the Guildford Borough in June 1851 but old enmities come to the surface as the aggrieved but still chief officer of the Borough takes exception to Biddlecombe receiving credit where he thought it was not due. Interestingly, Hollington refers to Biddlecombe as "detective."

1851 26 April Letter to The Times[249] from Superintendent Charles Hollington, Superintendent of the Guildford Borough Police – letter dated 24 April when he was a serving member of the Surrey Constabulary and therefore a close colleague of Biddlecombe. Mr Hollington felt aggrieved that "that the whole credit of breaking up the "Frimley Gang" was due to Mr Biddlecombe." Hollington asserted he arrested six of the men.

> "Levi Harwood. James Jones alias Burbage (hung for the murder of Mr Hollest) Samuel Harwood, Hiram Smith alias Trowler (the approver (note: this is the old term for informer) in the Frimley case) Thomas Toots alia Morgan and John Hillyer – the two latter were transported for life for the Uckfield burglary. These men I arrested entirely on my own suspicions.

[249] The Times online Article CS50889882

"How is it the whole credit is due to Mr Biddlecombe that he did not apprehend some of them as it was well known that one of the rendezvous of the Uckfield gang was Hindhead a little below Godalming where Biddlecombe was located?

The man Levi Harwood I had convicted nine years ago; he then had one year's hard labour, since which time I have had several summary convictions against him for assaulting the police etc. I also apprehended Jones on March the 13th 1850 on suspicion of a burglary at Mr Horne's linen draper Guildford (whose house was broken into on the 14th February in the same year) and found property belonging to Mr Horn's housekeeper upon him. He was committed to the Guildford borough sessions but owing to a month having elapsed between the burglary and apprehension, and the prisoner stating he had bought the property, the jury ignored the bill. At the same time, I apprehended a man named George Brisk, a companion of both Levi Harwood and Jones, and found property in his house the produce of several burglaries in the county. He was committed to the assizes at Kingston, where he was tried and sentenced to seven years transportation.

I beg further to state that I have on several occasions named these men to Biddlecombe, detective, and other officers, as the ones I had suspected to have committed burglaries in Surrey and elsewhere.

By inserting this you will greatly oblige your most obedient servant Charles Hollington

1851 1 January: The Surrey Constabulary became operational with an establishment of seventy police officers, including five superintendents. The first chief constable, Captain Hastings, was aged thirty-eight years.

The decision to form a county constabulary had a significant impact on the three chief officers of Dorking, Godalming and Guildford as their towns and therefore police forces were incorporated within the new Surrey Constabulary.

1851 Guildford Borough Police numbered just three constables and a superintendent.[250]

In the late 1840s and early 1850s before the Surrey Constabulary and briefly after its formation there were a considerable number of burglaries committed in Surrey and Sussex by a large gang of men and women who mainly lived-in camps on the commons and heaths. They would come together and travel large distances commit their violent burglaries returning to their homes or go off to London to sell the stolen property to receivers. Eventually the gang began to unravel as arrests were made by borough policemen from Tunbridge Wells, Guildford including Hollington and Biddlecombe of Godalming. These were hard and dangerous criminals but it is fair to say that the police officers were also very hard and "dangerous" men of great courage, determination and fortitude. The criminals arrested following the burglary and murder at Frimley were a part of the gang.

[250] http://st-caths-web.co.uk/?p=11643

The Isaacs Gang[251] (named by the author after the gang "captain") began to unravel following the arrest by police officers Morten and Dadson of the Tunbridge Wells Police, a number of the gang and then circulating others as wanted. Hollington of Guildford Borough recognised the name or description of the wanted men and went to a beer-shop in Guildford used by known local criminals. This was January 1851 possibly the last significant arrests made by Guildford Borough Police officers before they were incorporated within the newly formed Surrey Constabulary.

The newspapers reported that Morten and Dadson on arriving at Guildford on Saturday found that they were not upon the wrong scent as they found Morgan and Hillyer who were without doubt a part of the gang. Superintendent Hollington had arrested them in a beer-shop in the town on suspicion of the Uckfield Burglary. On the men was found property from other burglaries in Sussex as well as some tools taken from a carpenter's shop and which had been adapted for the purposes of a burglar. Morgan had made a most desperate attempt to resist the efforts of Hollington and PC Earl to take him into custody and had presented a large horse pistol at the former, which however was fortunately knocked from his hand. In addition to this violence the ruffian attempted to stab Hollington with a knife which had the blow not been parried would have killed him. Hillyer immediately swallowed something and bit the thumb of Hollington who tried to recover what was thought to be a banknote. (These were traceable to the victims) Mr Thomas Elliott who was in the bar assisted Hollington and Earl in the arrest of Morgan in the Swan – PC Earl called on Elliott to assist as Morgan pulled a pistol from his coat and Morgan dropped the pistol and a bundle. Elliott took possession of the gun and bundle and took them to the police station.

On Morgan, a screwdriver, a sheet, a tablecloth, a towel marked F, a piece of ham, a wax candle, and two pieces of India rubber were found along with a waterproof coat. Upon Hillyer was found a tweed jacket, a check handkerchief. Some of these articles were found to have come from burglaries in Hartfield and Uckfield in Sussex. The pistol seized from Morgan came from a recent burglary at Frensham.

Within this Surrey Constabulary archive, copies of which are always sent to the Surrey History Centre at Woking is a very detailed paper on the Isaacs Gang, their crimes, arrests and sentencing. Hollington played a significant role in the unravelling of this horrendous team of criminals who terrified the rural counties for some years

Hiram Smith's Confession of the Frimley murder

The confession of Smith was made between the committal and full trial where his turning Queen's evidence meant he was not charged with the murder and escaped punishment for the Frimley crimes.

[251] Named as such by Robert Bartlett after his research into the gang used as a basis for a number of talks in east Surrey

Mr Hollington, Superintendent of the Surrey Police was called by Hiram Smith who made a voluntary confession to him about his participation in the burglary in the presence of Mr Neale, the governor of Guildford Gaol. The confession:

"On the 27th September last, being Friday last, myself with other persons now in custody named Levi Harwood, Samuel Harwood and Samuel Jones were at Frimley and broke into Mr Hollest's house by taking out a bar. I entered first and Levi Harwood second. With a worm Levi Harwood bored two holes in the frame of the door leading to the kitchen and pushed the bolt with his knife, and then myself, Jones and Levi Harwood went in and there walked about. Levi Harwood then opened a workbox and took two shillings from it. We then all three of us went into the sitting room, and Levi Harwood and Jones searched while I fetched the candle and there found a silver hunting watch and a small old-fashioned gold one. We then went into another room; I do not know what was taken from there. They then went into the pantry. I then went and fetched Samuel Harwood in. Three of us went upstairs. Myself, Jones and Levi Harwood went into a bedroom and removed three ladies dresses, two out of the drawers and one from the bedstead; there was no one sleeping in that bedroom. We then came downstairs and put on the masks; myself and Jones put on the green ones which were produced last Saturday, and Levi Harwood put on a white one, and a white Guernsey over his waistcoat. Jones put on a large cloak, which was hanging in the passage and I put on one likewise. The cloaks belonged to the nurse. We then all four of us proceeded up the stairs; Jones went first with a pistol in his right hand which was loaded on his way to Frimley. He loaded both pistols with marbles. Jones first, Levi Harwood second and myself third here entered Mr Hollest's room while Samuel Harwood stood at the door with a sword drawn in his hand. Levi Harwood then said, "Lay still my good woman or else I will blow your brains out." He was standing at the foot of the bed at that time. Mrs Hollest instantly got from her bed and Jones being on the side of the bed took hold of her and thrust her into the corner of the room. Mr Hollest jumped out of bed and went to take hold of Levi Harwood when he (Levi Harwood) immediately fired the pistol at Mr Hollest and I took the gold watch off a stand in the room and we all ran downstairs. We were in the room for about five minutes. Jones and Samuel Harwood then started for Guildford and Levi Harwood and I went to Kingston then left him to go to London, he having with him the things, which were stolen from Mr Hollest's. We arranged on the previous Friday to commit the robbery. It was about 9 o'clock when the pistols were loaded by Levi Harwood"

The murder and trial were a significant source for newspaper reports across the United Kingdom and of course led to the formation of the Surrey Constabulary. On the 15 March 1851 the following article appeared in The Spectator

The Frimley murder and several occurrences of a similar character have conferred an unenviable notoriety upon the South- western counties of England. The last Assizes at Lewes have laid bare the alarming extent to which a confederation of robbers and burglars have carried on their attacks upon property, under the disguise of honest dealers and labourers.

A gang of twelve were brought to trial, and eleven of them convicted, principally on the evidence of an accomplice. The leaders appear to have resided in the heart of Surrey, and the field of their operations extended into the counties of Sussex and Kent. The stationary members of the fraternity were ostensibly shoemakers, basket makers, labourers, and so forth; their spies and the agents of their correspondence travel led about the country as hawkers.

The principal case tried was that of a burglary committed near Uckfield the perpetrators of which had been summoned from a distance of more than thirty miles. The robbers appear to have had a regular agency for the receipt and disposal of their plunder. In these counties there is a numerous population occupying as it were the debatable lands between the honest and the dishonest classes of society. It is composed partly of the numerous squatters who may be seen upon commons, as in the neighbourhood of Woking, and the semi-nomads who retire in winter to the villages, but whose tent-carts in summer swarm on the highways and block up every green lane.

The petty depredations of these itinerants are as extensive as they are notorious; they and their stationary colleagues are allied with all the poachers of the country, and with the " tramps", who are probably more numerous in Kent, Sussex, and Surrey, than in other parts of England. These counties are the "home circuit" of squatters this class, as have their headquarters in the Metropolis.

The proceedings of the Uckfield burglars resemble more the adventures in De Foe's Colonel Jack or Fielding's Jonathan Wild, than could have been expected in the days of the Metropolitan mounted police. We see them carousing on the daintiest viands and wines, in the greenwood shade, and cheating each other out of their ill-gotten gains, exactly as their predecessors of the last century did. On common occasions these fellows appear to have moved about in decent society, in the guise of honest mechanics, small traders, and labourers. Such facts speak volumes for the inefficiency of the Rural Police and the defective state of our penal law[252]

Charles Hollington held the position of chief officer of the Guildford Borough Police joined the new police force on the 15th February 1851 with enrolment number 82, along with another member of his force PC Jeremiah Campbell enrolment 83. (Dismissed 1852 for neglect of duty)[253]

Hollington was appointed as a superintendent on £85 per annum with his first station for only six months, Chertsey.[254] In September 1851 he was posted to Godstone, which appears to have been responsible for a greater part of the east of the county. After 5 years at Godstone Hollington was moved to the other side of the county Farnham where he remained as superintendent for almost six years before being posted to Chertsey in July 1862 and two years later in December 1864 back to Godstone. Just over five years later in May 1870 Hollington

[252] 15 March 1851 The Spectator
[253] Appointment register (Defaulter's Book), reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre Woking
[254] William Donaldson was appointment number 81 to the Surrey Constabulary aged 39 15 Feb 1851

was to return to Chertsey where he remained until retirement. Regular postings were common for all ranks.

Biddlecombe, the colleague from Godalming now entitled chief superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary in March 1851 with his family was posted away from his old haunts to the Reigate Division living in Reigate but not for long. There is a general order dated 10 July 1851 recording Superintendent Biddlecombe being posted to the Chertsey Division.[255] He retired in May 1858 being replaced with Superintendent Murtell from Godstone on promotion to Superintendent.

Possibly planning for his future (possibly contemplating leaving his new life with the Surrey Constabulary) in 1853 on July 1 it is recorded that Charles Hollington of Godstone, Superintendent of Police, acquired by auction, cottages and gardens in Plaistow Lingfield in several tenements. The site now houses Plaistow Hall.[256] It is unlikely that Hollington lived in Lingfield given its remoteness and that the Surrey Constabulary probably demanded that he lived above the police station in Godstone.

1856 8 August: Hollington as a superintendent stationed at Godstone was still involved in investigating crime. There were no detectives and it was the system for all serious crime to be investigated by the superintendent or possibly the inspector. One such case investigated by the superintendent was an arson.

Emma Lambert a good-looking girl, 13 years old, surrendered to take her trial for feloniously setting fire to an outhouse on a farm at Bletchingly in the evening of the 22 April. The prisoner and a much younger girl who was included in the charge but in whose case the grand jury ignored the bill, were seen to go towards a hovel on the farm and was shortly afterwards seen to be on fire and at the same time the girls were seen to be running away.

Superintendent Hollington of the Surrey Constabulary soon took the prisoner into custody when she began to cry and admitted setting fire to the place but it was done accidently. The prisoner appeared to have borne a good character and there was not the slightest ill feeling or animosity towards the farmer. It was accepted it was an accident and the girl was found not guilty[257]

By 1857 Hollington was working at Farnham as the superintendent. On August 8: Summer Assizes: Charge of arson at Farnham**:** Charles Williams a labourer was charged with feloniously and maliciously setting fire to a hay rick the property of Charles Andrews of Farnham. The prisoner pleaded guilty but said it was an accident so a plea of not guilty was entered. In the evening of the 31 March the owner's wife found the rick on fire – it was about 100 yards from the house and close to the road. The prisoner raised the alarm. PC66 Timson, Surrey Constabulary went to the fire at a quarter to 12 and saw the prisoner there sitting on

[255] Surrey Constabulary General Orders Book 1 1851-
[256] http://www.rh7.org/factshts/crime.pdf
[257] 1856 8 August Standard 1856 also 6 August The Times

some fagots. He asked him where he came from and the prisoner answered from Berkshire and was travelling in search of work. Superintendent Hollington said that when the prisoner came in, he gave the same story that he was with another man who had gone on. The fire broke out and he raised the alarm. On being searched he was found to have some matches. On conveying him to the station the prisoner said that he had accidentally set the rick on fire while lighting his pipe. The rick was on fire at the top and not the bottom. The jury acquitted him. [258]

A further Farnham case involving Hollington occurred in 1858 which came before the Surrey Lent Assizes on April 6: Serious charge against wife**:** Eliza Clout 28, married woman, was indicted for cutting and wounding her husband at Farnham, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm. Mr and Mrs Clout went to the Royal Arms in the evening where Eliza took tea with the landlady. At 10pm Eliza told her husband it was time to go home. Half an hour later still sat in the pub he felt something by the side of his neck and felt his neck was cut. He saw the axe fall from his wife's hand.

On route to the doctor in a cart she said she would like to see him a corpse at her feet. Both had been drinking all day. The doctor gave evidence that Mr Clout had a cut on the right side of his neck about three to three and a half inches long and more than two inches deep. It was not a wound inflicted with the intention of taking life. Superintendent Charles Hollington stationed at Farnham had the woman in custody on the 21st and he visited her to see if she was all right. She told the superintendent that she drew the razor not with any intent of injuring him seriously but only to frighten him.

The prisoner a timid respectable looking young woman of 28 appeared in the dock in a very weak state, which prevented her making any statement to the jury in her defence. Found guilty of unlawful wounding but without the intention of doing bodily harm. The husband offered to take her home if she was given her liberty. The Judge taking into consideration the condition of the prisoner he thought the best way would be to reserve judgement upon her till the next Assizes. Returned to Horsemonger Lane gaol.[259]

1860 Saturday 30th of June: Accident by the explosion of a shell [260] On Saturday last an inquest was opened at the "Black Prince" near Farnham, by W. King, Esq., deputy coroner of the county of Hampshire, on the body of George Newman, aged 13, whose death resulted from the accidental explosion of a shell, and particulars of which will be found in the following evidence.

James Harrington, a Labourer, deposed: on Thursday evening last, about 7:30 PM, when I was at supper, I heard a loud explosion near my house, in the Hale and Basingstoke Road. I immediately ran to the spot, and found the deceased, and several others lying in the road. One of my own children was there. I picked up the deceased, believing it was my son; but, finding

[258] 1857 August 8 Surrey Comet Kingston, Richmond and Epsom Gazette
[259] 1858 April 6 The Sussex Advertiser Surrey Gazette
[260] Keith Bean on Facebook group Historic Farnham and Surrounding Villages from Phil Dunford Feb 2017

he was dead, and that I was deceived, I laid him down again, and went to my son, who was knocked down by the explosion. I saw nothing of the shell, but in going out of doors, saw a large body of smoke, and there was also the smell of gunpowder. I saw the deceased and other children playing with the shell about an hour before the accident occurred, I did not know what it was. I saw my boy try to lift it, but it was too heavy for him, and the children then commenced pelting it with stones.

Police Constable James Blake deposed: I am stationed At Heath End, Hungry Hill. On Thursday last, about 7:30 in the evening, I was standing near my house, and I heard a large explosion, which appeared to come from the Hog Hatch, Hungry Hill. I immediately went to the spot and found that an accident had occurred by which a boy had been killed and several children injured. I examined the spot, and found a piece of shell, which I now produce. There Was also a large quantity of blood near the spot, and some portions of human flesh. I then accompanied Dr Edwards to deceased's house at the Hogs Hatch and found that he was quite dead.

Elizabeth Newman, 10 years of age, sister of the deceased, stated that her brother drove a nail into the fuse hole by means of a cannonball, and that he had only struck the nail twice, when the fuse ignited, and the explosion almost immediately took place.

Lieutenant Colonel Goodenough, (Royal Artillery), Who attended to offer any explanation respecting the missiles used in artillery practice, stated that the fuse would burn for 10 seconds only. The Colonel was next sworn and said that on practice days women and children of all ages were in the habit of attending to pick up bullets and anything they could find to make money off to their own danger and a great inconvenience of the troops. It was customary to send mounted men to these persons, to order them from the ground, but they invariably returned when "cease firing" sounded. The troops always picked up what missiles they could find, before leaving the ground, but it was next to impossible to find them all amidst the heather. In answer to the coroner, witness said that some shells were loaded with bullets, and contained as many as 128. The shell by which the deceased was killed was a common 24lb shell and contained no bullets.

Superintendent Hollington, in answer to the coroner, stated that the bullets obtained by women and children in the manner described, are usually taken to marine store-dealers who paid a farthing a pound for them.

The coroner said that persons taking away stray bullets and other missiles were liable to prosecution for larceny, as they were government property, and were, moreover, taken from government ground; and marine store-dealers who purchased such articles, were liable for receiving them, knowing them to be obtained in an illegal manner.

The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

The following is a remarkable case dealt with in a high-handed way by the Chief Constable who seems not to have sought an explanation as to the way the case was handled and why.

1862: 18 July: Mistaken arrest of a Colonel at Farnham. The excitement caused in the neighbourhood of Farnham and Aldershot by the arrest of Colonel the Hon. H. H. Clifford[261] when out for walking exercise on Friday morning last on suspicion of being a deserter continues unabated. Police Constable Larke whom the colonel accused of having acted with rudeness and incivility after he had disclosed his name and rank, and pointed out his residence in Castle Street, has been dismissed the force. He was previously considered to be one of the most active and efficient members of the Surrey Constabulary although he had only been in the force about two years. Police Constable Ryland who assisted on the above occasion and who had been about twelve years in the service had been reduced to the pay of a third-class constable and removed from Farnham to Godstone district.

Superintendent Hollington by whose directions the colonel was taken before the military provosts, and who is described as a very experienced officer has been transferred to Chertsey and the remainder of the Farnham Police are also about to be transferred to other places in the county. Colonel Clifford presented a written statement of the case before the Chief Constable of Surrey on Saturday and that gentleman made known his decision on the following Monday. The men were not permitted to render any explanation to the chief constable of the conduct pursued by them in the matter and therefore there is no way of now knowing what this was all about. Hollington was a serious and experienced police officer and surely would not lightly have sent someone like the Colonel in custody to Aldershot without what he saw as a good reason.

1862 19 July: Surrey Constabulary General Order: PC James Larke was dismissed and PC William Ryland was reduced from third to second class constable and to be removed at his own expense from Farnham to Lingfield. The two men were charged with "Apprehending on suspicion of being a deserter, Colonel, The Hon. H.H. Clifford, Assistant Quartermaster General at Aldershot without any reasonable grounds whatever on the 18 July" (day before). (Note: is this the origin of the Camberley to Caterham or the reverse for upsetting the chief constable?)

1864 April 16: Murderous attack by a burglar upon constables: Police Court – believed Bristol: John Smith alias Goodenough a middle aged, swarthy complexioned man of medium stature, but possessing a most villainous cast of countenance was charged with resisting his lawful apprehension under a warrant charging him with having committed a burglary at Alverstoke in the county of Southampton and stolen property of Samuel Wheeler and also with violently assaulting PCs 51, 199 and 200 with intent to do them grievous bodily harm. (A six-

[261] He took part in the Crimean war, where he received the appointment of aide-de-camp to Sir George Brown, commanding the light division, and was present at Alma and Inkerman, and for his gallantry in the latter battle was decorated with the Victoria Cross, by leading one of the charges, killing one of the enemy with his sword, disabling another and saving the life of a soldier (5 November 1854)

shot revolver was involved) The Superintendent from Southampton had arrived in Bristol with a warrant for the arrest of the prisoner who he had been seeking for several months for five very clear cases of burglary. He now sought to take him to Southampton.

The bench wanted to keep the prisoner because of the serious assault charges and the Superintendent asked that he take his companion Stewart to Gosport and if he was discharged, he would be brought back to Bristol. Mr Hollington Superintendent of Chertsey (Surrey Constabulary) said he would take the responsibility upon himself. (It is not clear why Hollington was involved).

Mentioned also in the report, which gives graphic information on the assault of the three officers, is **Biddlecombe, late chief superintendent Surrey Constabulary.** He said 8 years (1858) ago he had 25 cases of burglary against the prisoner. He was tried at Hertford and sentenced to 10 years transportation. He had been out 8 or 9 months and believed he had committed about 25 burglaries in his neighbourhood. He had broken out of more gaols than any other man in England. The prisoner was handed over to the police authorities to be conveyed to Gosport. Other men were then charged with trying to rescue the prisoner from PC199.[262]

One can only assume that the man was also wanted for the burglaries in Surrey and this was "a joint operation" with Southampton. Long retired Biddlecombe was probably there to identify the prisoner and prove he had convictions, as there was no other method.

1864 August 5: Summer Assizes Guildford: John Shelley 20 a labouring man was charged with **setting fire to various outbuildings** the property of William Briginshaw a farmer at Englefield Green his employer. £600 of damage was caused. The prisoner was arrested and whilst on remand sent for Superintendent Hollington Surrey Constabulary and told him he was very miserable and wished to unburden his mind and he then admitted setting fire to the property. Penal servitude for 4 years [263]

In December 1864 Hollington returned to the far east of the county, as far from HQ as was possible and in modern times often referred to as the West Kent Division of the Surrey Police! After almost six years at Godstone Hollington was to return to Chertsey in October 1870 where he was to serve until his retirement on August 31, 1872.

A case from his time at Chertsey is reported on **January 14, 1865** in The Standard: Apprehension of The Portsmouth Murderer: The town and neighbourhood of Chertsey was thrown into a state of great excitement on Thursday evening by the intelligence that James Piper who had murdered his wife at Portsmouth on the evening of Wednesday had been arrested by Superintendent Murtell, assisted by Inspector Bungard. The prisoner who is tall and athletic is an engine fitter by trade and drove an engine for some years on the London and South

[262] 1864 April 16 The Western Daily Press
[263] 1864 August 5: Reading Mercury, Oxford Gazette, Newbury Herald and Berks County Paper

Western Railway. His father it appears drove the first engine on the Chertsey and Addlestone Railway when the line was first opened. The murder was a result of a quarrel, the prisoner drawing a knife and stabbing his wife in the back. The blade of the knife penetrated the lungs and the unfortunate women died soon afterwards. The Portsmouth police ascertained that the prisoner had acquaintances in Chertsey and on enquiry at the railway station they learned he had taken a ticket for Godalming. Telegrams having been despatched to Chertsey Superintendent Hollington made search in a cottage occupied by one William Turner, which is situated in a retired lane leading from New Shaw (probably should be New Haw) to Woodham on the high road to Woking where the prisoner was found in a shed (?) and at once taken into custody. He was locked up in the Chertsey police station until yesterday (Friday) morning when he was taken before the Hon. G. Cavendish and G. Balpett (?) two justices acting for the Chertsey petty sessional division. The Justices ordered that the prisoner should be handed over to the Portsmouth police who had been appraised of the prisoner's apprehension.[264]

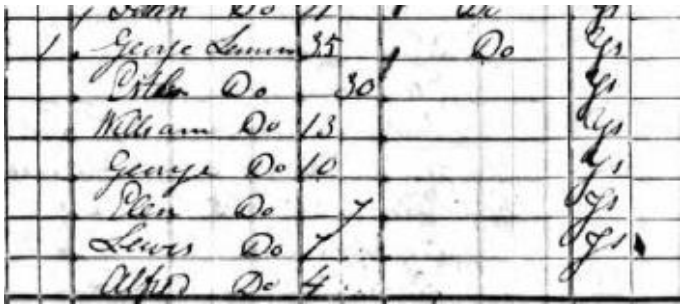
No references have yet been found of Hollington post 1865 other than the strangely named Defaulter's Book noting his retirement. (Roll of those joining the Surrey Constabulary probably named after some military administrative procedure)

[264] January 14 1865 The Standard

PC George Lemon
Guildford Borough Police 1850-January 1851
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 86
17 February 1851- 31 March 1888 – 37 years

1831 10th April George Lemon was baptized at St Peter and St Paul West Clandon, he was born on 17 March 1831 and his parents were George, a labourer, and Esther Peters of West Clandon.

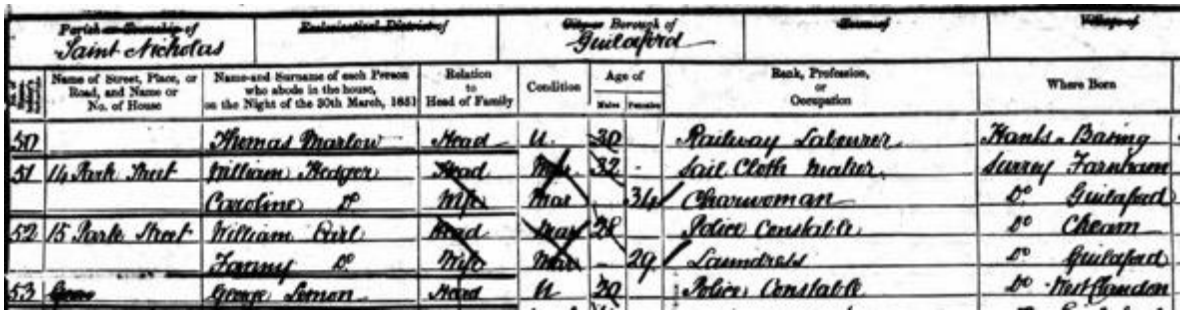
1841 Census: Living with parents, and siblings: William 13, Ellen 7, Lewis 7, Alfred 4, and Mary 2. The address: Clandon Street, West Clandon, Surrey.



1850 July to February 1851 George Lemon was a constable in Guildford Borough Police Force

1851 February 17 George Lemon joined Surrey Constabulary aged 20, 5 feet 10 inch, born West Clandon joined from Guildford Borough Police 17 Feb 1851

1851 Census for Park Street Guildford lists George Lemon, a Police Constable, unmarried.



Parish or Township of Saint Nicholas	Ecclesiastical District of	Borough of Guildford				
Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, on the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Males	Age of Females	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born
50	Thomas Marlow	Head	U	30		Railway Labourer	Hants. Basing
51 14 Park Street	William Rodger	Head	Mar	32		Sail Cloth Maker	Surrey Farnham
	Caroline do	Wife	Mar		31	Charwoman	do Guildford
52 15 Park Street	William Earl	Head	Mar	28		Police Constable	do Cheam
	Fanny do	Wife	Mar		29	Laundress	do Guildford
53 Same	George Lemon	Head	U	20		Police Constable	do West Clandon

1851 May 13: Sussex Advertiser- Guildford Borough Police Court: **Assaulting the Police**. George Wheatley, labourer was charged with having assaulted Police Constable George Lemon, while in the execution of his duty. Lemon said that between one and two o'clock on Tuesday morning, he saw police constable William Earl, struggling with James Loe Scotman, they were in the gutter in front of the Town-Hall. He went to the assistance of this brother officer, when the prisoner struck him a violent blow across his head with the hurdle stake produced, a most formidable looking weapon. His hat was broken in two (the hat was

produced), he felt rather staggered but on recovering himself, he looked around and saw the defendant drop the hurdle stake. The defendant ran across the road into the crowd, but one of the play actors brought him back and he took him into custody.
The prisoner said he never had such a thing as a hurdle stake in his hand. He was going to take Scotman away from the policeman, when someone struck over his shoulder at Lemon. He did not know who it was. Magistrates said the prisoner, by his own shewing, was endeavouring to rescue a prisoner from the custody of the police. They had no doubt whatever that it was he who struck the blow, and he would have to pay a penalty of £5 or go to prison for two months. The prisoner was then committed to hard labour for two months in default of payment.

1851 October 28: Sussex Advertiser Guildford Borough Police Court, **Felony.** John Thompson, a cadger was brought up in custody on a charge of felony. Mr Charles Peachey Hollis, a tailor in the High Street deposed that about half past twelve o'clock on the previous afternoon he had two brushes belonging to him lying on a bench in his back yard. A little after seven o'clock the same evening he missed the two brushes. They were the ones produced.

Robert Strickland, tailor in the employ of Mr Hollis deposed that on the previous evening about half past five o'clock, the prisoner came into his master's workshop and asked the men to relieve him, which they refused to do. He offered a pair of scissors for sale but could not find a purchaser. He then went away and in going out he passed through the yard in which the bench spoken of by Mr Hollis was placed. He, the witness, was a clerk for the relief of tailors out of employ, but he did not relieve the prisoner because he had no membership card.

Thomas Hughes, a private in 69th Regiment of Foot, deposed that om the previous evening he was at The Rose and Crown Public House in Chapel Street Guildford. The prisoner came in about seven o'clock and asked him if he thought there were any old hats to be sold, as he was a hat-dresser, the prisoner bought two old hats. The prisoner then pulled two brushes out of his pocket and offered to sell them for 6d and a pot of beer. The witness took them from the prisoner to look at then gave them back saying he was not in need of any brushes. The brushes produced were those offered by the prisoner.

John Stevens, landlord of the Bull's Head Public House deposed that on 22nd inst., the prisoner came to his house and gave him a bundle to talk care of and he put it in the bar. The prisoner took the bundle back again on 24th and the witness thought he was leaving the house. On receiving information about Mr Hollis's stolen brushes, he searched in a cupboard where traveller's bundles are usually kept. He took the prisoner's bundle from the cupboard and found underneath it the two brushes produced.

George Lemon, a Borough police constable, deposed that on the previous night about eleven o'clock he searched The Bull's Head Public House and he found the two brushes produced lying under a bundle in the cupboard as stated by the last witness. He found the prisoner in bed at the same house and took him into custody.

The prisoner said he was a tailor by trade and occasionally cleaned hats, he also bought anything that was offered to him for sale in the shape of old clothes, brushes and hats. He offered two brushes for sale on the preceding night, one of the brushes he sold at another public house, there was one man, a stranger in Mr Hollis's workshop while he was there. He was then committed for trial at the next borough sessions.

1852 November 2 Sussex Advertiser; Guildford Borough Police Office: Sarah Fry, 40, single woman, Guildford was brought up in custody of Police Constable Lemon, who stated that half past one o'clock that morning the prisoner was in a **beastly state of intoxication** in the High Street, which was no new thing with her. The Magistrates gave her a severe reprimand and fined her 5s.

1854 November 10 at St Martin's Church Dorking, George Lemon, a Police Constable, whose father was George Lemon, a farmer **married Jane Voice**.

1855 October/December quarter Dorking, Henrietta Jane Lemon was born., her mother's maiden name was Voice. She was baptized 9th March 1856 at St John the Evangelist, Hale, Farnham, Surrey, her parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane, who lived at Hale.

1856 July 19: West Surrey Times, Farnham, Police Intelligence: John Norgrove and Richard Knight, 20, labourer of Farnham Were charged with **stealing from the person** of Jane Lamport, single woman, of Farnham, a shawl, of the value of 2s 6d on the night of the 14th inst. It appears the prisoners met the complainant in the park about 9 o'clock in the evening and tore the shawl from her back, the complainant instantly called out to someone ahead of her. The prisoners made off and hid the shawl in some fern in the park. Information having been given to the police, PC's Mason and Lemon proceeded to the common and took the prisoners at one o'clock in the morning. Superintendent Everitt discovered the shawl in the fern. The prisoners were remanded until Friday.

1856 September 20, West Surrey Times, Farnham County Court. Robert Stevens,32, labourer of Kingsclere, Hants, was charged with **committing an unnatural offence** at Hungary Hill, Farnham on the 12th inst. Thomas Daniels, hawker, Farnham and PC George Lemon, appeared as witnesses and having proved the case the prisoner was committed under the Vagrant Act for 21days hard labour.

1857 December13: John George Lemon was **baptized** at St John the Evangelist, Hale, Farnham, his parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane who lived at Weybourne Lane.

1858 May 1: West Surrey Times, Farnham, John Webb was charged with having on 4thApril **refused to admit** PC'S Allen and Lemon to the Royal Arms public house on their application. PC Allen said – at five minutes to four o'clock on the afternoon in question, he in company with PC Lemon, rapped on the door of the Royal Arms Inn, the defendant put his head out of the window but said nothing, he the disappeared. The constables rapped for five minutes then the defendant let them in, where they found seven soldiers in the parlour. There was no beer

on the table but marks as if a pint of beer had been standing on the table. PC Lemon corroborated this evidence. The defendant said he only detained the constables while he went to get the key to the front door, and that the soldiers were some he had there to dine with him. A witness corroborated this statement and the case was dismissed.

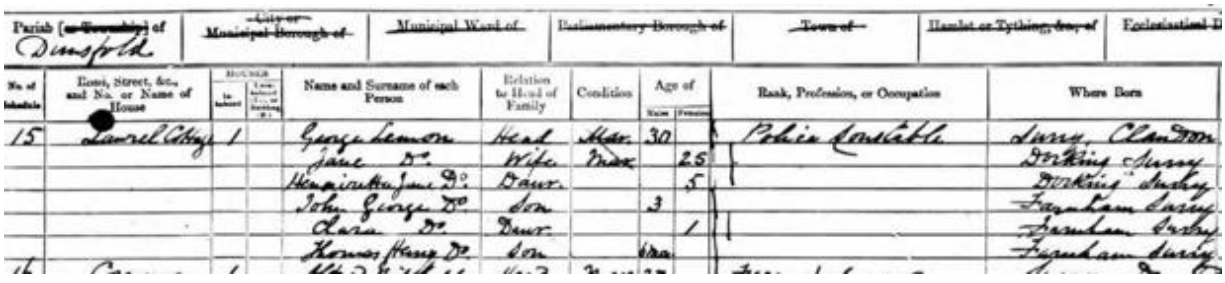
1858 June 5: West Surrey Times, Farnham, **Charge of Assault.** Young v Allen: The complainant in this case is a shoemaker and the defendant a constable of the county constabulary. The complainant stated that on the evening of 19th May he left Mr White's public house at Aldershot. He called at a public house on the road and entered the Royal Arms at twenty minutes past eleven o'clock. He asked for trust for half a pint of ale and was refused. The landlord attempted to strike him and he called this to the attention of the defendant, who was present and he said it served him right. He then insisted on taking his number, but the defendant refused to let him do so, tripping him up. He was then put out of the house by the defendant and after he was turned out the defendant kicked him three times. He went to the police station and then returned to the house where he was served half a pint of beer. Both constables were in the house.

The defendant in answer to the charge, said he was on duty and was called to the house by the barmaid. The complainant seized him twice by the collar to see his number and on the second occasion he was pushed away but fell down from being in liquor. He denied kicking him, he did not see him again that evening nor was he in the house when he came back. Lemon, the other constable, confirmed the defendants statement. Mr J Webb, the landlord said the defendant merely pushed the complainant who was drunk and fell down, he denied serving him any beer. Another witness called for the defendant said he was not to blame. The Chairman said the evidence was all one way and the defendant would leave court without a stain on his character and whilst the complainant ought to be indicted for perjury.

1859 October 9 at St Andrew's Church Farnham Clara Lemon was b**aptized** her parents were George, a Policeman and Jane of Bear Lane, Farnham.

1860 November 18 at St Andrew's Church, Farnham Surrey Thomas Henry Lemon was **baptized,** his parents were George, a Policeman and Jane of Park Row, Farnham.

1861 Census: Living with his wife Jane and children Henriette 5, John George 3, Clara 1 and Thomas 6 months. Address Laurel Cottage, Dunsfold Surrey. Occupation Police Constable.



Parish [or Township] of Dunsfold	~~City or Municipal Borough of~~	~~Municipal Ward of~~	~~Parliamentary Borough of~~	~~Town of~~	~~Hamlet or Tything, &c. of~~	~~Ecclesiastical D~~

No. of Schedule	Road, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	Houses: Inhabited	Houses: Uninhabited	Name and Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of Males	Age of Females	Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born
15	Laurel Cottage	1		George Lemon	Head	Mar.	30		Police Constable	Surrey, Chertsey
				Jane Do.	Wife	Mar.		25		Surrey Farnham
				Henrietta Jane Do.	Daur.			5		Surrey Farnham
				John George Do.	Son		3			Farnham Surrey
				Clara Do.	Daur.			1		Farnham Surrey
				Thomas Henry Do.	Son		6m.			Farnham Surrey
16										

1862 June 16: Anne Alice Lemon was **baptized** at Dunsfold, her parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane of Dunsfold.

1862 October 4: West Surrey Times, Surrey County Bench Guildford: James Coles, a middle-aged man of respectable appearance, appeared in answer to his bail, charged with **stealing a fowl** at Dunsfold, the property of Mr Goodman. PC George Lemon deposed that from information received he searched the prisoner's premises, and found the fowl hanging in an outhouse. Upon telling him the charge he replied that he found the bird in the road near Hook House. After some further evidence, Mr Powell of The Prince of Wales, Woodbridge Road was called and he spoke very highly of the honesty and respectability of the prisoner who was then discharged.

1863 December 20: Albert Edward Lemon was **baptized** at Dunsfold his parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane of Dunsfold.

1865 October 9: Several Newspapers including London Evening Standard: **The Attempted Murder of Two Persons at Hascombe.** On Saturday afternoon James Oliver, aged 67years was brought before magistrates at Guildford charged with stabbing, with intent to murder, William Underwood and Mary Ann Underwood, at Hascombe on the evening of Thursday 7th September. The prisoner had ben remanded from week to week in consequence of the illness of the injured persons.

William Underwood, a grocer at Hascombe, who also sold table beer to be drunk on the premises, said he knew the prisoner, who worked for Mrs Hockley as a gardener, and took his meals at the witness's house almost every day. On Thursday 7th September he came in in the evening at about a quarter past eight o'clock. He then had a piece of breads and cheese and some tea. He began to swear when he came in and continued to do so as he had his meal. He did not mention any name but said he would do for the ---------- that night. Witness said he thought the prisoner had a good place to work at, and had no reason to complain, as he had very good pay for an old man., and often got an easy half crown.

Witness said, "I know what hard work is as well as you, but I haven't done as much as you have, as you are an older man than I am" Prisoner replied "Oh! That's it, is it." He said nothing more, but sat a few minutes, then got up and stabbed the witness in the arm first, then the neck. The witness did not see what he had been stabbed with, but the prisoner had been using a knife to cut his bread and cheese. He was sitting at the time, and the attack almost knocked him down. He did not become insensible, and saw the prisoner turn towards his (the witness's) wife, but the prisoner did not witness what happened as he was scrambling up. The witness had been under medical treatment since the attack.

The Chairman said, the prisoner had not been violent towards the witness, but he knew that he had knocked a man down with a fire hoe some time back. Mary Ann Underwood, wife of the last witness remembered the prisoner coming to the house that day. They all sat together in the kitchen and she heard the conversation between her husband and the prisoner which he (her

husband) had stated. She saw the prisoner get up and hit her husband twice, but she could not see if he had anything in his hand. After hitting her husband, he came round the table and stabbed her once in the neck. She turned round and found blood spurting out and said, "You've stabbed me." He never spoke, and she ran out of the door with the prisoner following. Two men named Stevens and Giddings pursued him and Giddings struck the prisoner with a stick, and then she saw a knife in his hand.

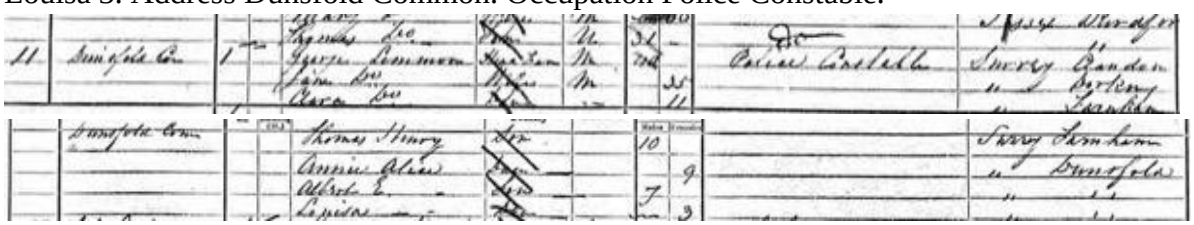
William Giddings and William Stevens then gave evidence, adding they had no reason to think the prisoner was drunk but thought it was all his temper. The knife he had was like that produced by Police Constable Lemon, 72, a gardener's pruning knife that did not shut.
Police Constable George Lemon said he took the prisoner into custody on the evening of 7 September and told him of the charge. He said, "I've had my revenge, and I have no doubt I shall hang but, I shall laugh as I am crossing the scaffold." He had previously been cautioned not to say anything unless he liked. The prisoner's hand was very seriously cut between his thumb and forefinger, and bleeding profusely. The cut was an inch deep, and a surgeon was sent for to bind it.

Frederick Yare, surgeon of Godalming attended the Underwood's at Hascombe and found Mrs Underwood had been stabbed in the left-hand side of her neck, and her dress was saturated with blood. The wound was made with a sharp instrument and about an inch and a half in length. A principal artery was divided. The Chairman said, the wound was likely to cause danger to life. The witness had stopped the haemorrhage and if any return had ensued, she would probably have sunk under it. She was still very weak from the blood loss.

The Magistrate's Clerk said, Mr Underwood had been stabbed in the neck, the wound being angular as if the knife had been turned. There was also a wound in his left arm, midway between the shoulder and elbow. The wounds were not dangerous, the one in the neck was so close to the subclavian artery that the knife hitting the collar bone saved his life, if the knife had hit the artery, death would have been instantaneous. The knife produced would have inflicted such wounds. The prisoner who did not question the witnesses was committed for trial at the Assizes. At the Spring Assizes in 1866 James Oliver was sentenced to penal servitude for five years (**Surrey Advertiser 31st March 1866**)

1867 September 15 Louisa Lemon was **baptized** at St Mary and All Saints, Dunsfold her parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane of Dunsfold.

1871 Census: Living with Jane, Clara 11, Thomas Henry 10, Annie Alice 9, Albert E 7, and Louisa 3. Address Dunsfold Common. Occupation Police Constable.

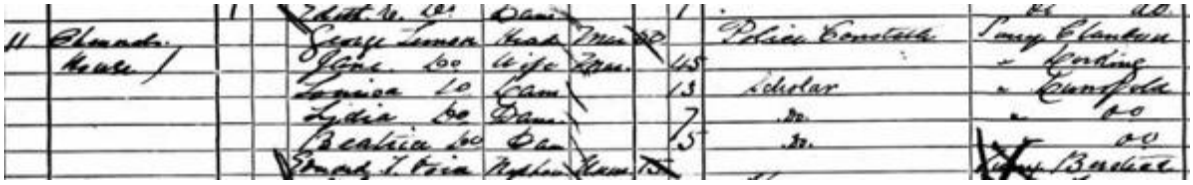


1873 July 27: Lydia Lemon was **baptized** at St Mary and All Saints, Dunsfold, her parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane of The Kennels, Dunsfold.

1876 April 9: Beatrice Lemon was **baptized** at St Mary and All Saints Dunsfold, her parents were George, a Police Constable and Jane of Dunsfold.

1877 November 17: At St Mary and All Saints Dunsfold, Henrietta Jane Lemon **married** Frederick Werrett, her father was George Lemon a, Police Constable.

1881 Census: Living with Jane, Louisa 13, Lydia 7, Beatrice 5. Address Chinnels House, Dunsfold. Occupation Police Constable.

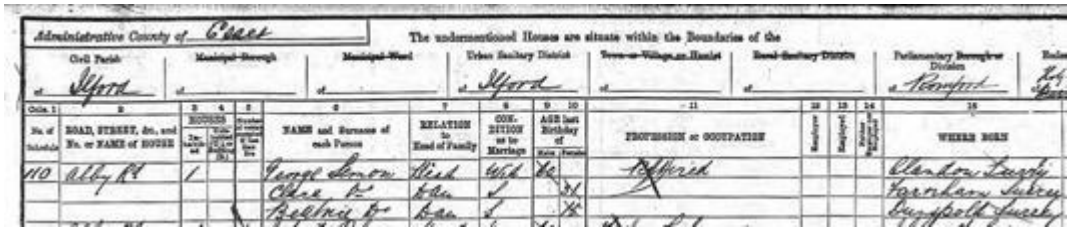


1881 December 28: Jane Lemon aged 45 years of Dunsfold was **buried** at St Mary and All Saints Dunsfold.

1888 March 31 Resigned with superannuation £50 13s 10d after 6 postings and two discipline offences.

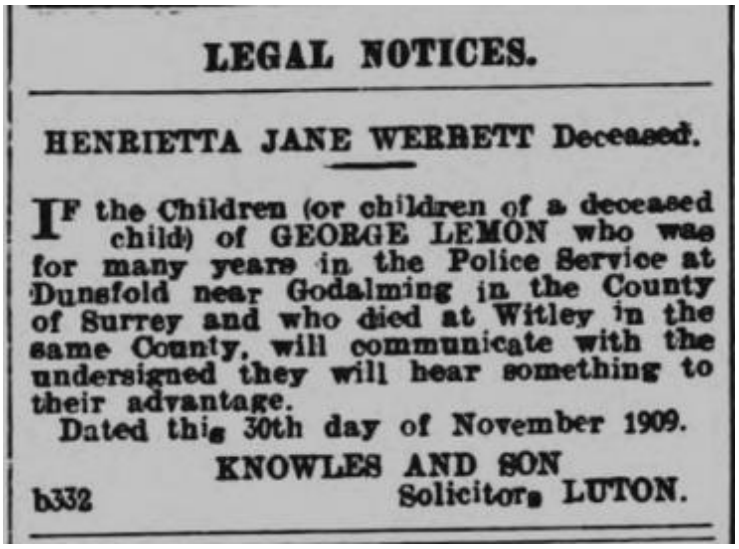
1888 April 7: Surrey Mirror, Surrey Quarter Sessions, The County Constabulary: We have under consideration the recommendation of the Chief Constable that a **pension be granted** to Police Constable George Lemon who has become incapable through infirmity of body of performing his duties. Lemon was appointed on 17th February 1851 and has therefore served for a period of thirty-seven years, during which time he has discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the Chief Constable. We recommend the Court to grant to the said George Lemon, out of the Constabulary Superannuation fund, a pension of £50 13s 10d per annum, being equal to two-thirds of his pay, to take effect from 1st April 1888.

1891 Census for Abbey Road, Ilford, Essex lists George Lemon, widower, retired born Clandon Surrey with his daughters Clara born 1860 Farnham and Beatrice born 1876 Dunsfold.



1897 March 5: George Lemon aged 66 years was b**uried** at All Saints Witley, Surrey.
The family appeared to have lost touch with each other over the years as the following were inserted in newspapers regarding two of the children.

1909 December 4: Dorking Advertiser and 3rd and 7th December Surrey Mirror



LEGAL NOTICES.

HENRIETTA JANE WERRETT Deceased.

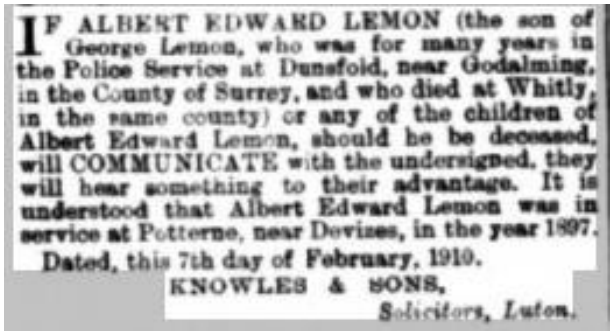
IF the Children (or children of a deceased child) of GEORGE LEMON who was for many years in the Police Service at Dunsfold near Godalming in the County of Surrey and who died at Witley in the same County, will communicate with the undersigned they will hear something to their advantage.

Dated this 30th day of November 1909.

KNOWLES AND SON
Solicitors LUTON.

b332

1910 January 29 Dorking Advertiser and 12th and 26th February West Somerset Free Press.



IF ALBERT EDWARD LEMON (the son of George Lemon, who was for many years in the Police Service at Dunsfold, near Godalming, in the County of Surrey, and who died at Whitly, in the same county) or any of the children of Albert Edward Lemon, should he be deceased, will COMMUNICATE with the undersigned, they will hear something to their advantage. It is understood that Albert Edward Lemon was in service at Potterne, near Devizes, in the year 1897.

Dated, this 7th day of February, 1910.

KNOWLES & SONS,
Solicitors, Luton.

1909 December 30: London Evening Standard, Missing Heirs: A summary of missing heirs, legatees etc for whom enquiries had been made through the medium of the press during the past year contained "the children of George Lemon, who for many years served in the Police Service."

PC 12/PC98 (Inspector) William Lambert
(Reduced to PC)
Surrey Constabulary
Enrolment Number 89 2 March 1851
Born 1821 Fernhurst, Sussex
Retired 31 July 1873 ill health pension
Died 1905 Lingfield

Robert Bartlett, Jean and Henry Pelham, Robert Simonson 2 February 2021

1846 Hampshire Constabulary for two weeks

1851 March 2 joined Surrey Constabulary. Age 30 in 1851, 5 feet 8 inch, born Sussex.

GO 68 1 Jan 1852 promoted third to second class

GO107 2 Jan 1854 Second to First.

Promoted inspector and later reduced to constable and posted to Shere as PC98.

Later served Reigate and Lingfield.

1873 July 31 resigned ill-health. Superannuation £46 12s 10d being 2/3 of his pay. Resigned

1905 died Lingfield

Family History

Parents: Father – Robert Lambert - Mother – Ann Lambert

1841 Census: Living Bepton, Eastbourne, Sussex, with parents Robert and Ann and brothers and sisters: Father's (Robert) occupation – Farmer.

1851 Census: Living Bonel's Farm, Bisley, Surrey – Lodger – occupation Police Officer.

1861 Census: Living with wife Ann and children in Shere, Guildford, Surrey. Occupation shown Police Constable.

1871 Census: Living with Ann and children in Shere, Guildford, Surrey. Occupation Police Constable. Also living in the household is daughter Fanny Johnson (nee Lambert), son-in-law William Johnson, and Grand-daughter Ellen Johnson age 2 months.

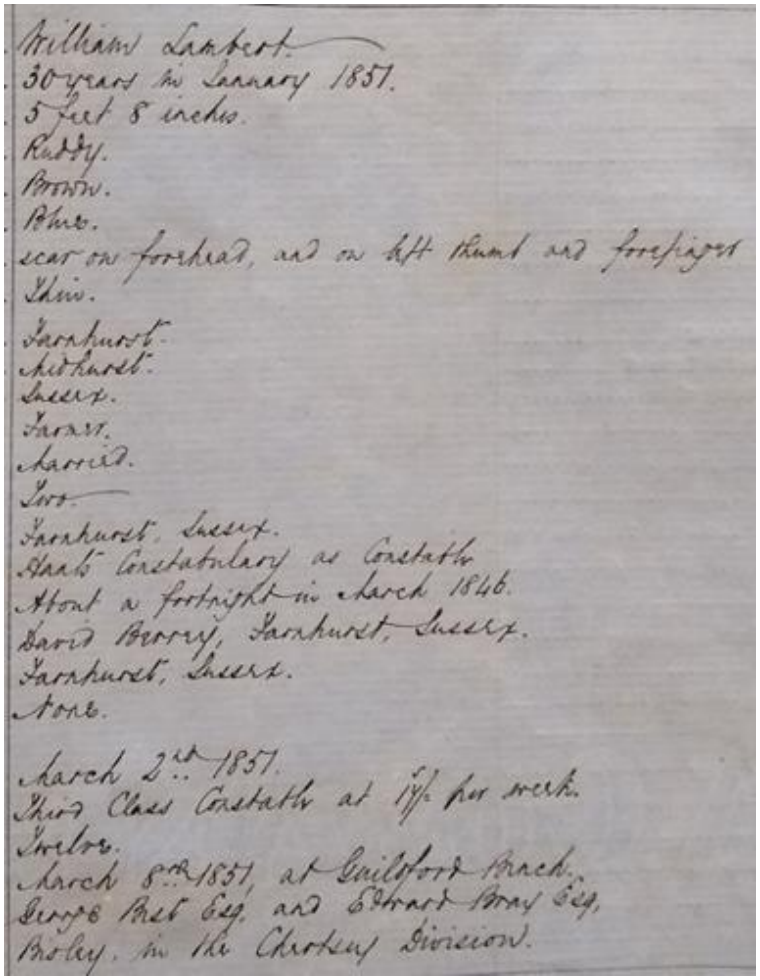
1881 Census: Living with Ann and children, in Lingfield, Surrey. Occupation Superannuated Police Constable.

1891 Census: Living with Jane A (2nd wife), Salisbury Terrace, Bexhill, Sussex. Occupation – Superannuated Police Constable.

2nd Marriage: to Jane Ann Burt 6 July 1887 – East Grinstead, Sussex.

1901 Census: Living Baldwyn Hill, Lingfield, Surrey, age shown 80 years old living with Thomas and Ellen Skinner (daughter) - relation to Head of household – Father-in-law.

Died 1905: Baldwyn Hill**, Lingfield**. Burial date 25 January 1905 aged 84 – buried St Peter, St Paul, Lingfield, Surrey.


William Lambert.
30 years in January 1857.
5 feet 8 inches.
Ruddy.
Brown.
Blue.
scar on forehead, and on left thumb and forefinger
Thin.
Farnhurst.
Shiphurst.
Sussex.
Farmer.
Married.
Two.
Farnhurst. Sussex.
Hants Constabulary as Constable
About a fortnight in March 1846.
David Berry, Farnhurst, Sussex.
Farnhurst, Sussex.
None.

March 2nd 1857.
Third Class Constable at 17/- per week.
Twelve.
March 8th 1857, at Guildford Branch.
George Rist Esq. and Edward Bray Esq.
Bailey. in the Chertsey Division.

Appointment Register[265]

There is a reference in the establishment list of 1863 to Inspector William Lambert at Bagshot. This is PC 12. In GO 68 1 January 1852 promoted third to second class GO107 2 January 1854 Second to First class constable which meant the next rank was inspector. Having been appointed inspector the demon drink interfered and he was demoted and posted to Shere where

[265] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

his excellent police work resulted in the prompt arrest of the random murderer of the young girl Sax.

PC William Lambert resigned through ill-health 31 July 1873 dying in 1905.

By 1860 police pensions were paid but of course Surrey officers could not have served in the county for more than nine years though it was possible to bring service from another force. By then it was conceivable for a policeman retiring in Forces with 15 years' service to be granted a pension of half pay. More than 15 years' service could bring this up to 2/3rds.

Some press cuttings from William's service

1853 21 May: Chertsey Petty Sessions: William Dean was charged on the information of Inspector Burridge with furiously driving a horse and cart in Windlesham with **PC 12 Lambert** Surrey Constabulary, proving the case. The defendant was driving the horse and cart at top speed and continued whipping it and the pace was dangerous. Penalty and costs 16s [266]

1853 21 May: Chertsey Petty Sessions: Assault on police and parish constable: A pupil in the establishment of Mr Costin of Lambert House, Bagshot was summoned to answer a complaint of **PC William Lambert,** Surrey Constabulary. At midnight on the 12th of May he was on duty in Bagshot Street and hear a cracking noise he found a quantity of pales torn off. He then heard a noise from the Cricketers Inn and went there and as he arrived three men ran off. He found the panel of the front door had been broken in. He followed the men who had run off and found them trying to break the front door of Mr Kilvington's house. When he was a few yards of he heard "**Here's the police"** and the defendant turned round and struck him a violent blow on the forehead; he **received several other blows and his head** was cut open the blood flowing into his eyes so he could hardly see. He struck the defendant a blow who then ran away. The officer went down the street and met Mr Costin who said his young gentlemen had been up to their games again. He then took him to the Mariner's Inn for the purpose of washing his face. The three men came into the Inn and the officer pointed out the person who had struck him. Before the court found guilty and £10 plus expenses or two months hard labour. Hoping this would prevent a recurrence of such disgraceful scenes in Bagshot.

The same defendant was then charged with **assaulting parish constable** Charles Kilvington. The assault was not denied but said it was the parish constable's behaviour and language that had led to the assault. £2 and costs with both penalties then paid. [267]

1856 March 15 West Middlesex Herald: Chertsey Bench March 10: James Neary and Owen Carroll were charged by PC Lambert Non 12 Surrey Constabulary stationed at Bagshot with being **deserters** from HM steam transport "Transit". Ordered to be conveyed to on board HM receiving ship "Crocodile" at the Tower.

[266] 1853 21 May Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[267] 1853 21 May Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette

Lawrence Lyall charged with being a deserter for the Royal Navy. PC Lambert stated he apprehended the sailor who was dressed in the garb of a sailor and not giving a proper account of himself he detained him on suspicion of being a **deserter** from the Navy. The prisoner denied being a deserter and was discharged.

1856 April 5 West Surrey Times: Alfred Elbury of Egham was charged on the information of PC Lambert Surrey Constabulary, with wilfully and maliciously **setting fire** to a portion of the common in the parish of Windlesham, the property of St John's College, Cambridge. The prisoner was observed near the spot where the fire broke out but denied having set fire to it. The bench informed the prisoner that circumstantial evidence was very strong against him, and that he might consider himself fortunate that there was no direct evidence to convict him of the act. If there had been, they would have inflicted severe punishment. They cautioned him as to his future conduct.

1856 May 17 West Surrey Times: William Watts, carter, Frimley was charged by PC Lambert with riding on a wagon drawn by two horses, without reins or without having anyone on foot or horseback to guide the same. Convicted and fined 1s with 19s costs

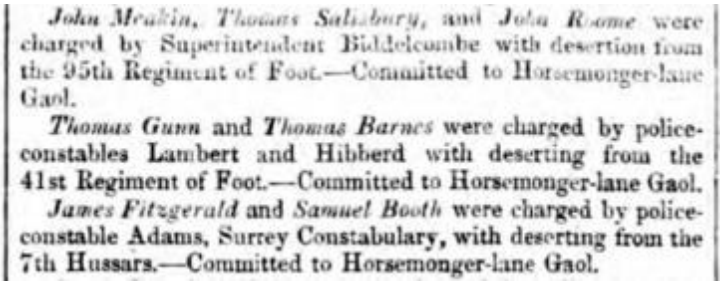
1856 July 12: Chertsey Petty Sessions: Robbing a Crimean Soldier and recovery of the property: On Thursday July 4 a corporal of the 3rd Battalion of the Grenadier Guards who had latterly returned from the Crimea was robbed of a silver watch and about £80 in gold by a prostitute in Aldershot camp. A description of the woman was given to **PC 12 Lambert** Surrey Constabulary, stationed at Bagshot from enquiries found that the suspect had caught a train to Broomhall Station, London. He went to that station he determined to wait there until the evening to see if she returned which she did and Lambert had the satisfaction of seeing her get out of a carriage and he took her into custody. Upon being searched he found a quantity of clothing obviously bought in London, and a large quantity of sovereign, half sovereigns, t French dollars, some silver, a Russian gold medal and two new gold rings. A sergeant of the Hants constabulary has since recovered the watch. She was handed over to the Hants constabulary and was committed to Winchester Assizes.[268]

This is also likely to be William Lambert PC12 at these events are within the Bagshot area as was the 12 July incident report above.

1856 August 9: Chertsey Petty Sessions: Eliza Searle charged upon the information of **PC Lambert** Surrey Constabulary, with wilfully damaging shed at Windlesham and was given a 5s and 1s penalty with 20s costs or two months hard labour. [269]

[268] 1856 June 28: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[269] 1856 August 9: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette

1856 August 9 West Surrey Times: Thomas Gunn and Thomas Barnes were charged by police constables Lambert and Hibberd with deserting from the 41st Regiment of Foot. Committed to Horsemonger-Gaol



John Meakin, *Thomas Salisbury*, and *John Roome* were charged by Superintendent Biddelcombe with desertion from the 95th Regiment of Foot.—Committed to Horsemonger-lane Gaol.

Thomas Gunn and *Thomas Barnes* were charged by police-constables Lambert and Hibberd with deserting from the 41st Regiment of Foot.—Committed to Horsemonger-lane Gaol.

James Fitzgerald and *Samuel Booth* were charged by police-constable Adams, Surrey Constabulary, with deserting from the 7th Hussars.—Committed to Horsemonger-lane Gaol.

1856 August 16: Chertsey Petty Sessions: Emma Jones and Eliza Jones, mother and daughter were charged with feloniously **setting fire to a shed** at Bagshot causing £70 of damage. Mrs Jones was arrested and taken to Chertsey police station where the female searcher deposed that on Monday evening 4 August the prisoners were brought there by Superintendent Biddlecombe directed she be searched and placed in the female cell. Mrs Jones admitted to her that she had set fire to the shed. Superintendent Biddlecombe deposed that he took Emma Jones into custody and charged her with setting fire to Mrs Burchett's shed. She said she knew nothing about it. He directed **PC Lambert** to take the daughter into custody. The mother was sent to the next Assizes and the daughter discharged.[270]

Again, this is William given the date and location.

1856 October 25: Windsor and Eaton Express: William Bartlett of Egham was charged with **cruelly illtreating a horse**, driven by him with sore shoulders. PC Lambert Surrey Constabulary having proved the offence the defendant was fined 10s including costs.

1857 March 28: Surrey Assizes, Kingston: Elizabeth Everett 32 a servant was indicted for endeavouring to **conceal the birth** of a male child of which she had recently delivered at **Windlesham**. Blood was found leading to the privy and the defendant was close by. The body of a child was found in the privy and the feet were raised up with a rake. PC Lambert Surrey Constabulary was sent for and he took the child out of the privy with his hands and washed it and kept it in charge. He took the body to the station and took the prisoner into custody. Lambert showed the child to the surgeon the same day. Mrs Lambert wife of PC Lambert searched the prisoner when she was brought to the station and also examined her clothes, which were very much stained. She told Mrs Lambert that the baby was in the water closet but she had told no one at the house. The surgeon was **Mrs** JM Todd who was unable to say if marks on the body had been cause by the rake. Vomiting and sickness can bring on a premature birth. The judge said that to prove the offence she either buried or otherwise disposed of the child. If the jury believed that the child came to the place where it was found without any act of the prisoner's the jury were bound to acquit, which they did.[271]

[270] 1856 August 16: Windsor and Eton Express, Berk, Bucks and Middlesex Journal and West Surrey Gazette
[271] 1857 March 28: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

1857 December 26 West Surrey Times: Charles Benzing a German was brought up by PC Lambert No12 Surrey Constabulary charged with **wilfully breaking a glass and pictures** the property of William Rakstraw of Bagshot doing damage to the amount of 8s. It appears that the parties had been on friendly terms for some time but a quarrel had since broken out. And the prisoner broke the property in passion. The prosecutor said he was willing to take the 8s damage which was paid and the prisoner was therefore discharged.

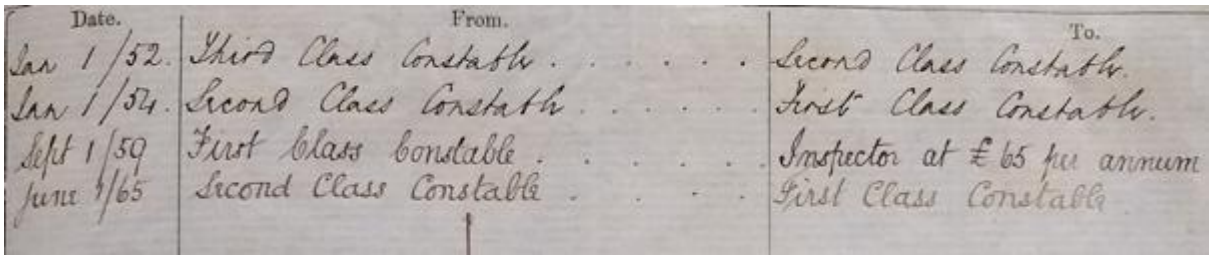
1858 September 7: Horse stealing at Ash: A deserter from the 4th Light Dragoons John Bills was charged with stealing a horse from Lieutenant Blackett of the same regiment. PC William Lambert Surrey Constabulary stationed at Bagshot received information at a quarter to seven in the morning that a man on a horse had made off across the fields to avoid the turnpike. He followed on foot when he saw the prisoner riding a horse and as the prisoner saw him, he dismounted and ran off. The officer chased and caught him but would not say where he got the horse. The prisoner and horse were taken to Bagshot and then to Guildford where Blackett identified his horse. Committed for trial at the next sessions at Newington.[272]

South Eastern Gazette 6 January 1863

Division	**Rank**	**Name**	**Address**	**Force**
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	37 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	James Law	Witley	
Reigate	Inspector	Mr Charles H Coward	Reigate	15
Dorking	Superintendent	Mr John Page	Dorking	15
Dorking	Inspector	Mr Henry Stemp	Leatherhead	
Chertsey	Superintendent	Mr Charles Hollington	Chertsey	23
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr William Lambert	Bagshot	
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr John Jones	Egham	
Godstone	Superintendent	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Godstone	11
Farnham	Superintendent	Mr James Murtell	Farnham	12
			Total strength	113
		Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective Districts		

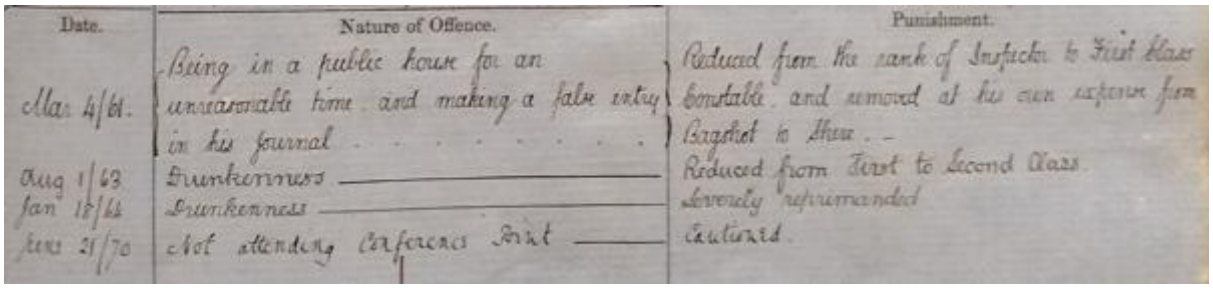
[272] 1858 September 7 Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette

William's promotions[273]



Date.	From.	To.
Jan 1/52.	Third Class Constable	Second Class Constable.
Jan 1/54.	Second Class Constable	First Class Constable.
Sept 1/59	First Class Constable	Inspector at £65 per annum
June 1/65	Second Class Constable	First Class Constable

Inspector William Lambert was reduced to constable on 1 June 1865 after more than five years in the rank, to first class constable and issued with the collar number 98 as his original number had probably been allocated to someone else. He was moved at his own expense to Shere. This must have been a huge shock to his morale, way of life and family income but he stuck at it and served until July 1873 when he left on a medical pension. His actions during the murder investigation of Jane Sax were commendable.



Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punishment.
Mar 4/61.	Being in a public house for an unreasonable time and making a false entry in his journal	Reduced from the rank of Inspector to First Class Constable and removed at his own expense from Bagshot to Shere . .
Aug 1/63	Drunkenness _____	Reduced from First to Second Class
Jan 18/68	Drunkenness _____	Severely reprimanded
June 21/70	Not attending Coroners Court _____	Cautioned

1866: Shere Murder R v Longhurst: Dorking: charged with **murder of a little girl** when aged 21 but said to be insane. At Guildford Assizes the case put back until next Assize. JAS Longhurst murder of a six-year-old girl Harriet **Sax: 1866 2 July:** Attempted murder of a little girl Jane Sax in a field between Shere and Gomshall: Jane Sax had been sent on an errand across the fields when a man caught her and dragged her over a fence with dry faggots on top of it into an adjoining field, then into high standing wheat. She was stabbed in the throat partially severing her windpipe and cut her tongue. She screamed and attracted attention and crawled away as Mr. Edser arrived and saw a man making off. Edser lifted the girl and took her to Doctor Hilliard and on his way met **PC Lambert.** The officer undertook a widespread search and found the man hiding in a field. James Longhurst was searched and the officer found four clasp knives, three with two blades, and one with three blades. The suspect was then taken to the girl and the doctor and asked if he was the man that attacked her and Sax agree it was. The prisoner was taken to the lock up in Guildford in the same carriage as the doctor took the little girl to the hospital. [274]

1866 July 6: Extract: Murder Sax: The particulars which have come to light leave little doubt that the object of the ruffian was in the first instance to violate the child and that foiled in his

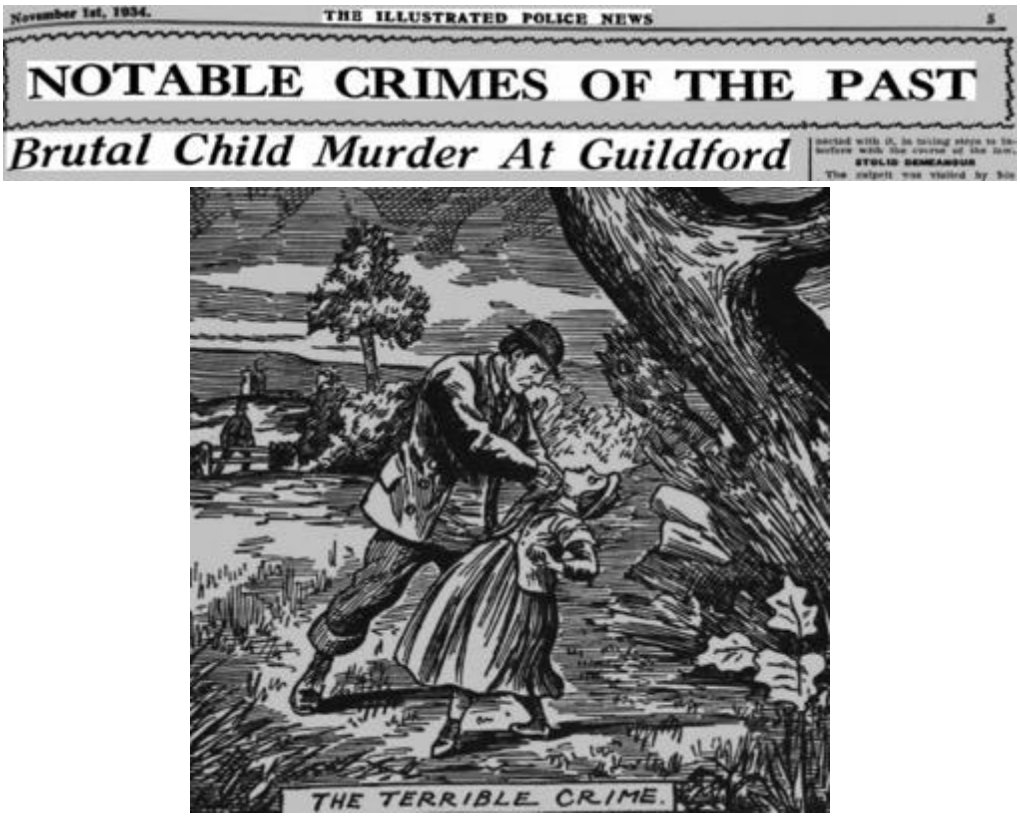
[273] The extracts from the Defaulter's Register at the Surrey History Centre Archives, Woking with the help of Robert Simonson.
[274] 1866 2 July: The Times

attempt he endeavoured to revenge himself and to destroy the evidence of identity by murdering his victim. Jane and her aunt were walking a path from Gomshall to Shere when they saw a man later identified as the attacker and thought he was up to no good. Later that day Jane was sent on an errand along the same path and about halfway into her journey the man met her by a gate on Mr King's farm near a field owned by Mr Fraser. The man dragged her over a fence and about thirty yards into the field into high standing wheat. It is not known what happened then but he stabbed her in the throat, partially severed her windpipe, cut her tongue and to have hacked her in a most barbarous and brutal manner. The poor child managed to scream and her cries attracted the attention of a young man David Edsar a tanner, who was coming down the hill through the pea-field from the direction of Gomshall. Hearing the cries of a child Edsar hastened to approach when he plainly perceived a short man wearing a round felt hat rushing across the wheat field in the direction of the river, which bounded it at the bottom. In an instant the child who had managed to crawl through the gate bleeding profusely met him. She had only strength left to point in the direction of the retreating figure of the man then she fell in a swoon, the blood from her wounds deluging the path.

Edsar without a moment's delay raised the little sufferer in his arms and rushed with her to the surgery of Dr Capron, which is situated close to the church. There he met **Police Constable Lambert** of the Surrey Constabulary and having placed the child under the care of the doctor and hastily explained what he knew of the case he proceeded with Lambert in search of the miscreant supposed to have committed the deed. When they had crossed the second field from where the outrage was committed one of them espied a crouching figure of a man creeping silently but rapidly along under the hedge. The pursuers without hesitation arrived at the conclusion that this was the man of whom they were in search and judging correctly of the course he must take they ran rapidly round the road and intercepted him close to an occupation bridge over the South-Eastern Railway just as he had emerged from the field into the road. Without parley, **Lambert laid hands on him** and stated that he arrested him on the charge of feloniously assaulting with intent to murder Jane Sax. The man made no reply but preserved a sullen and dogged silence. Having handcuffed the prisoner, the constable and Edsar conveyed him to Dr Capron's where he was shown to the child and the doctor asked if he were the man who had assaulted her. She was very weak and faint but appeared to be quite sensible and conscious and twice she answered in the affirmative. A fly was procured and the doctor accompanied by the policeman, the child's uncle, the prisoner was conveyed to the lock up and the child to the county hospital. The child by this time was quite prostrate and unconscious and she lay during the whole journey more dead than alive on her husband's lap. On Saturday the prisoner was brought up before Mr Matheson and Mr More-Molyneux and Mr Godwin- Austin county magistrates of the Guildford Bench. Jane Sax was not well enough to attend and the prisoner was remanded. [275]

[275] 1866 July 6: Nottinghamshire Guardian

Illustrated Police News 01 November 1934


November 1st, 1934. THE ILLUSTRATED POLICE NEWS 5

NOTABLE CRIMES OF THE PAST

Brutal Child Murder At Guildford

THE TERRIBLE CRIME.

1867 March 30: **Longhurst's trial Surrey Spring Assizes** Kingston: James Longhurst 21, a sullen, stupid-looking country lad was charged with the wilful murder of Jane Sax by cutting her throat. The case stood from the summer assizes last year upon an application that was made on behalf of the prisoner for postponement to bring forward evidence that the prisoner was of unsound mind at the time the offence was committed. The facts are that a labouring man Edsor, was passing a field called Church-hill field at Shere when he heard cries of distress and upon looking over the hedge, he saw the deceased who was a child 7 years of age, bleeding from a wound in her throat and standing in a pool of blood that had flowed from the wound and almost a fainting state. He asked her who had done it and she replied, "That boy," at the same time pointing to the prisoner who was a short distance off and walking away. Edsor went after the prisoner and brought him back and he then asked the deceased if he was the boy who had done it and she replied that he was.

The witness then gave the information to **PC Lambert** Surrey Constabulary and they both went to the field where Lambert took the prisoner into custody, noting that there was blood on one of his hands, which he coolly licked off and wiped his hand on his trousers. Longhurst was arrested for wounding Jane Sax and he made no answer. PC Lambert searched his prisoner and found four clasp knives upon the blade of one was a quantity of blood. The local doctor took Sax to the Royal Surrey County Hospital where on the 25 July she died. On the day of the morning, she died a magistrate took her statement in the presence of the prisoner. "On the same

day I was brought to the hospital I met the prisoner in a field that leads from Shere to Gomshall. The prisoner was holding open a gate and as I passed through, he laid hold of me and squeezed me and laid me down on the field and laid on top of me for a little while. He then picked me up and took me in the wheat field close by and threw me down and put his hand up my clothes. I cried out and he tried to choke me. When he was holding open the gate, I saw a knife in his hand, and whilst I was in the wheat field, he cut me with the knife. The prisoner is the boy – I am quite sure he is the boy who did it."

The jury after half an hour's deliberation found the prisoner guilty and he was sentenced to death upon which the prisoner became exceedingly violent. He threw his cap on the floor and exclaimed, "What am I to be hung for? I have done nothing." He attempted to strike and kick the warders who were in the dock. It was with considerable difficulty that he was removed to the cells below.[276]

1867 16 April James Longhurst was **executed** at Horesmonger Lane, gaol for the **murder of** Harriett Sax aged 6

Five years after the murder William was moved to Reigate, not the Borough but the area around the newly formed Borough Force. After about ten months the family moved to Lingfield where William was to work until retirement, superannuated at £46 12s 10d being 2/3 of his pay. After resigning through ill-health. 31 July 1873.

Date.	From.	To.
May 31/52.	Horley	Bagshot. (Chertsey Division).
Mar 18/61.	Bagshot	Shere.
Jan 1/72	Shere	Reigate
nov 13/72	Reigate	Lingfield.

On retirement he moved away from Lingfield later returning to Baldwyn Hill**,** Lingfield where he was to die in 1905.

[276] 1867 March 30 Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette:

Superintendent Alfred Henry Bungard
Hampshire Constabulary
PC 66 Surrey Constabulary 11 March 1851
Appointment 92
Born 1831 Chichester
Pension 1 January 1890 died October 1891

Former occupation a shoemaker having served in the Hampshire Constabulary for 4 months

1851 March 11: Joined Surrey Constabulary Age 20 in 1851 5 feet 11 inch, born Chichester

GO 68 1 January 1852 promoted third to second class

GO 80 20 May 1852 promoted to First Class

GO 106 20 Aug 1863 Telling a lie to Superintendent re conference point. Reduced from first to second class.

GO 130 24 October 1856 First class to inspector at HQ vice Coward promoted.

GO 134 25 March 1857 acting Superintendent at Borough of Godalming vice Superintendent Burridge resigned.

GO140 5 May 1858 appointed Superintendent posted Godstone vice Murtell 1858

1890 January 1 Superannuation after 7 postings from inspector to superintendent. Pension 2/3 £120pa 39 years' service

Newspaper Cuttings

1857 March 28: Surrey Spring Assizes Kingston: Shooting with intent to murder: Worplesdon: William Jelly 23, William Harris 32, James Chowney all farm labourers charged with shooting at James Bowring with intent to murder him. On the 11th I was on Mr Medley's ground about three o'clock on Sunday morning; Grover was with me; I had only a small stick and Grover had a life preserver, but neither had firearms. He heard two guns discharged in the woodland footsteps approached them and the parties came out of the woods where they were lying in wait. As he appeared Harris lifted his gun and fired at Bowring when he was no more than five yards off; the charge cutting his coat and causing no injury. Chowney pointed a gun at him on the other side. He went to hit Harris but was struck with a stick across the head and knocked him down. Chowney pointed his gun at Bowring but Grover seized him before he

could fire. I got up and fired off the gun in the air. Chowney and Jelly said they would give in but Harris made his escape. Then the two men began to struggle and would not give in.

PC George Newland Surrey Constabulary said on the 14 December he went with Bowring and found some pieces of paper, which had been fired out of a gun where the scuffle had taken place and afterwards traced steps of one person to **Worplesdon.** The ground was very wet and muddy. Inspector Alfred Henry Bungard Surrey Constabulary, Guildford, apprehended all the prisoners. The jury found the men guilty; Harris was transported for 15 years, lucky that his actions had not resulted in murder; Chowney who acted almost as bad transported for 15 years (he had a previous conviction). Jelly, following a recommendation for mercy from the jury was sentenced to penal servitude for 4 years. [277]

1857 December 5 Sussex Agricultural Express: Magistrates Clerk's office: Robert Ketcher charged with **stealing a quantity of copper wire** valued 6s the property of Daniel Hopkins. George Jackman deposed that on the 10 June last he missed the copper from the grounds of his master. Police were informed and a man named Duncan was tried and found guilty of the offence by magistrates at Guildford and sentenced to six weeks imprisonment. John Connell bought some of the wire from the prisoner and he later handed it to the police. Alfred Henry Bungard deposed – on the 16 day of June I received from the last witness the wire which I now produce. George Newland, inspector of police deposed that yesterday morning he arrested the prisoner at Wandsworth and told him what for; he said, I am no more guilty of stealing the wire than you are, all that he knew of it was that Duncan stole the wire. Committed for trial 21 December 1857.

1858 January 15 Establishment[278]

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Supt & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	46 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr TH Glamorgan	Witley	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Ash near camp	

1858 May 25: Surrey Adjourned Sessions: Court House Newington: On the magistrates assembling the Clerk of the Peace said in consequence of **Mr Biddlecombe** late Superintendent of the rural police having taken an inn at Chertsey, **Mr Murtell** Superintendent at Godstone had been removed to Chertsey and Mr **Alfred Bungard** from Guildford was appointed in Mr Murtell's place at Godstone, but it was necessary for the court to appoint him as **Inspector of Weights and Measures** for the Godstone Division. Mr Bungard was accordingly sworn in.[279]

[277] 1857 March 28: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[278] 5 January 1858 South Eastern Gazette

[279] 1858 May 25 The Sussex Advertiser and Surrey Gazette

1858 June 2: Police Gazette: Absconded from Godstone Union-house at 3am the 30 inst., and stealing a pair of fustian trousers, a pair of cord ditto, a cord jacket, a blue striped shirt, a white round frock, a hat and two pairs of men's lace up boots all marked Godstone Union. A description of a 22-year-old male is circulated with information from Superintendent AH Bungard, Surrey Constabulary, Godstone. Bow Street May 31.

1859 December 7: Murder: Wife killed by her husband: During last Saturday night at Bletchingly Mr Brown the landlord of the Red Lion Inn and his wife who frequently quarrelled as she was addicted to drink. On Saturday night she much upset a number of customers by going into the parlours when she was under the influence of liquors. The company left the house between 11 and 12 o'clock and the lodgers went to bed between twelve and one o'clock leaving the husband wife alone in the parlour. They argued; Brown kicked his wife so hard in the abdomen that she shortly bled to death. Mr Sergeant a surgeon of Bletchingly was called but his aid was to no avail. Superintendent Bungard of Godstone police proceeded to Bletchingly and apprehended the prisoner between two and three in the morning and conveyed him to one of the cells at Godstone police station. The deceased was about 34 years of age and the prisoner about 40. They have five children.[280]

South Eastern Gazette 6 January 1863

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	37 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	James Law	Witley	
Reigate	Inspector	Mr Charles H Coward	Reigate	15
Dorking	Superintendent	Mr John Page	Dorking	15
Dorking	Inspector	Mr Henry Stemp	Leatherhead	
Chertsey	Superintendent	Mr Charles Hollington	Chertsey	23
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr William Lambert	Bagshot	
Chertsey	Inspector	Mr John Jones	Egham	
Godstone	Superintendent	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Godstone	11
Farnham	Superintendent	Mr James Murtell	Farnham	12
			Total strength	113
		Superintendents are also Inspectors of Weights and Measures for their respective Districts		

[280] The Morning Chronicle (London, England), Wednesday, December 7, 1859; The Ipswich Journal (Ipswich, England), Saturday, December 10, 1859

1865 December 9: Surrey Quarter Sessions: James Weston, labourer 18, and of an exceedingly stolid and withal, dirty appearance was indicted for **obtaining by false pretences** on the 9 November 1865 one curry comb, one dandy brush the property of John Lloyd and again on the 10 November in a like manner obtaining a halter the property of John Lloyd. There were other charges of obtaining property in Ashtead. Inspector Bungard said the prisoner had been a navigator at work in Epsom and Leatherhead railway for some time but had taken to drinking spending a great deal of money. Pleaded guilty; three months imprisonment with hard labour.[281]

1872 November 15 Police Gazette: Missing from his home at Chertsey, Surrey, since the 9th instant: William Yeowell, about 86 years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high; dressed in a black cloth coat and trousers, white neckerchief, and beaver hat. It is feared some ill has befallen him. £3 reward will be paid to any person giving such information as may lead to his being restored to his family, or, if dead, to the recovery of his body. Information to be given to Mr. W. Halifax, Chertsey, or to Superintendent Bungard, Surrey Constabulary, Chertsey.

1873 May 30: Friday: Suspected murder at Chertsey: Mr Hull the coroner for West Surrey resumed an adjourned inquest at the Sun Inn, Chertsey touching the death of a boy about seven found in a ditch with his hands and feet tied on the night of Thursday week. Dr Eady of Chertsey said he was called to see the body after it had been taken out of the water. He found a few bruises about the neck and both hands and feet were tied. The police stated that they had failed to find out how the child got into the ditch and an open verdict was recorded.

Lloyds Weekly Sunday June 8, 1873: The supposed murder at Chertsey: On Wednesday at the Chertsey petty sessions Avis Jane Best aged 24 a good-looking woman, residing at Charlotte-street, Portman Square. London was charged with the wilful murder of William Best aged seven whose body was found on the 26 May. Superintendent Bungard of Chertsey said "On the 29th ult., the prisoner was brought to the police station. I visited her in the cells as usual when she said she wished to make a statement. I said whatever she said must be taken down in writing as it might be used as evidence against her. She replied that it was what she wished done. She consequently made the statement as follows: "On Monday the 19th ult., I left Waterloo station at 6.10pm for Weybridge station. I mistook my road and went beyond St George's Hills. When I returned to Weybridge station it was getting dark. I met a young woman and asked her road to Addlestone. She told me I had better ride, as it was too far to walk. I did not ride but walked through Addlestone to Chertsey. I went past Pound Hill to Willow-walk to the top of Colonel's –lane. I told the child to take his clothes off. He did so. I then folded a piece of oil cloth the wrong way outwards, like a shawl, put it over his shoulders, and tied it loosely and tied it with a piece if white tape to stop it falling off. I then pointed to the water with my finger. The child walked down the bank and one foot went in the water and he fell face downwards in the water. I put my hands out to try and reach hold of him but could not as he went too far beyond the trees. He kicked three or four times. I cannot say which. He was then quiet. I did not see him sink. He appeared to me to lay on his face ion the top of the water.

[281] 1865 December 9 Surrey Advertiser

I did not strike him or hurt him in any way before he went into the water. He had a scar on the left cheek close to the ear. I told him before we left London what he was to do. My reason for doing so was because no one would take care of him, he was so dirty in his habits. I gave him plenty of food. I was told by my sister-in-law and other persons that I gave him too much. I did not go to my mothers, on the 19th ult. and have not seen my mother in Chertsey for three years. Signed: Avis Best" The prisoner was committed for trial [282]

1880 January 7; Police Gazette: Found at Oakshot (sic possibly Oxshott), Surrey on 17 inst., a **bay mare,** 15 hands high, off hind foot white and blind in near eye. Information to Mr Superintendent Bungard, Surrey Constabulary Chertsey. Bow Street December 29.

There are many more insertion on Police Gazette under Bungard's name.

1880 July 3: The Chief Constable Captain Hastings presented his usual abstract of the state of crime and persons arrested during the quarter. There had been three offences against the person and two persons apprehended; five offences against property with violence, and one person apprehended; 17 offences against property without violence and 16 persons apprehended; three malicious offences against property and four persons apprehended; once case of forgery and offence against the currency and one person apprehended; 24 persons have been charged with offences triable by jury of whom 12 have been committed for trial and 12 discharged and 555 charged with offences punishable summarily by justices of whom 453 were summarily convicted and 102 discharged. **[283]**

1880 July 3: County Constabulary: The report stated that the receipts of the Constabulary Stock amounted to £6,779 6s 9d, and the expenditure £903 17s 1d. The committee recommended that the tender of Messrs Willing and Co., for 100 tablets at 10s 6d each with the words "County Police" surmounted by a crown thereon be **affixed to the residences of the constables** where required, be accepted; also, that PC Argent be granted a pension of £16 12s 10d per annum.[284]

In the same press report are copy correspondence over the West Surrey Coroner MR G H Hull who has been the subject of many complaints. This is a little confusing at it is date **January 20, 1880.** There is a report from Superintendent Bungard to his Chief Constable who sent it on to the Constabulary Committee who in turn sent it to "My Lord" who is most likely the Lord Chancellor. Bungard's report dated **9 January 1880**, opens with details of the death of Samuel Ward who jumped off Chertsey bridge and drowned. PC Lazenbury was sent to the coroner with particulars of the case and an enquiry was to be set up at 1.30 pm on the 26th at the Victory Inn. The coroner did not turn up. The following day Bungard sent a telegram to the coroner asking what he intended to do with the matter. During the day the Coroner came, saw the

[282] 1873 May 30: The Morning Post Friday
[283] Surrey Advertiser 3 July 1880
[284] Surrey Advertiser 3 July 1880

doctor, paid the constable 15s, but no inquest was held. Bungard continues with other incidences. On the 26 August last Henry Stocker aged about 40 was found dead in bed at Chertsey Ferry.

I sent PC Dennett the same day to the Coroner with a report and had the body removed in a boat to the Crown Hotel feeling certain that an inquiry would have been held. (There ought to have been) as the man had not been ill or attended by any medical man. "I heard nothing from the Coroner for a week viz, on Sunday 31st, then only to say Doctor Chaldecott would give a certificate of death. This case caused grave inconvenience and talk of the town (there was a letter in the County Times respecting it.) The body was most offensive in consequence of such a delay and after all no inquest. On 23 ult., Henry Underwood a child died very suddenly at Chobham. On the following day Sergeant King went to the Coroner with a report of death, but up to the present time the Coroner had not sent any reply whatever to Sergeant King but has written to Doctor Hope asking him to examine the child and he the Coroner, would pay him. In this case no inquest was held.

On the 27 April 1880 a reply is received by the Chief Constable what appears to be the private secretary to the Lord Chancellor. On receipt of the Bungard report it was forwarded to the Coroner in case he desired to make any observations informing him that the statements were such that a formal charge against him might arise out of them. As Mr Hull neglected to return the report and offered no explanation of his conduct his lordship caused two other letters to be addressed to him on the 4 March and 16 April in the latter he informed Mr Hull that the charges against him appeared to his lordship to be so serious as to imperatively require an answer, and that if he should fail to furnish a satisfactory explanation within a week, his lordship would feel it to be his duty to advise the complainants to bring the matter judicially before himself or his successor in office.

Mr Hull has not returned this report or vouchsafed any answer whatever to the letter, and his lordship has therefore directed me to inform you of what has already taken place, and to add that he will hand over the papers to Lord Selborne, to whom any further complaints as to conduct of Mr Hull or any petition for his removal from office, should be addressed.[285]

West Surrey Times 3 January 1885

Division	Rank	Name	Address
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford
Headquarters	Deputy Chief Constable	Charles W Barker	Guildford
Headquarters	Inspector	Inspector WH Bryant	Office staff Woodbridge Road

[285] Surrey Advertiser 3 July 1880

Headquarters	Sergeant	Page	Office staff

Superintendents: Mr AH Bungard Chertsey, Mr G Lambert Dorking, Mr F Pike Farnham, Mr E Redford Godstone

Inspector H Baker Hersham, Inspector H Collis, Egham Inspector JH Dennett, Albury Inspector G Manning, Holmwood

Sergeants W Alexander Ripley, C Bundy Witley, G Boon Weybridge, TF Chapman Haslemere, A Crook Chertsey, T Edgeler Cranleigh J Heighes (sic) Frimley EJ King Cobham, CA Keys Woking

1886 June 26: Chin a blacksmith from Willow Walk, **Chertsey** entered Chertsey Police station wet and exhausted and stated that the girl had **committed suicide** by throwing herself **into the Thames** and that he had attempted to rescue her but had failed. The police immediately went to the spot where they found the umbrella, hat and gloves of the deceased. At a little distance from the bank there was evidence of a struggle and the river at this point is very shallow. Chinn has been detained and will be charged on Monday on suspicion of having caused the death of the girl. The police find that Chinn and the girl had been staying for three nights at an inn at Virginia Water and were seen together at Hampton races and that the prisoner pawned the deceased's gold watch with a pawnbroker in Staines[286]

1886 June 28: Charge of murder: Superintendent Alfred Bungard of Chertsey police stated that on the 18th instant he received a communication from Mrs Hale stating that her daughter had been missing from home at Kew since the 14th instant and was supposed to have gone to Chertsey with a young man. [287]

1886 July 3: Murder in the Thames: Staines Town Hall charged on suspicion of causing the death of Annie Hale aged 20 by drowning her in the Thames on the 18 June was Robert Chinn aged 20, a labourer. The deceased lived at Kew with her parents but went to Chertsey to visit the prisoner but never returned. Her mother wrote to Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary who received the letter on Thursday week. In the late evening of that day Chin went to the police station at Chertsey and said that the deceased had thrown herself into the Thames at Shepperton and that he had been unable to save her. The body was found on Friday morning below Walton Bridge. The prisoner said he had done nothing wrong but was remanded. [288]

1887 November 16: Burglary Egham: A reward of £100 is offered in an advertisement following a burglary at Milton Park Egham. The reward is independent and in addition to that

[286] North Eastern Daily Gazette 26 June 1886
[287] The Times (London, England), Tuesday, Jun 29, 1886
[288] Illustrated Police News 3 July 1886

already offered for the recovery of the property stolen. Communication to be made with Superintendent Bungard, Surrey Constabulary, Chertsey[289]

1887 December 24: Surrey Constabulary establishment
Chief Constable Captain HC Hastings
Deputy Chief Constable Superintendent Chas. W. Barker
Office Staff: Inspector WH Bryant and Sergeant Page Headquarters Woodbridge Road, Guildford Superintendent **Mr AH Bungard** Chertsey
Superintendent Mr G Lambert Dorking
Superintendent F Pike Farnham
Superintendent E Redford Godstone

1888 January 18: Murder Byfleet: Between half past seven and half past eight the other night a murder which has caused a great sensation was committed in Byfleet a small village some three miles from Chertsey. It seems that an old man named Chuter aged 67, lived with his son in a small house in Byfleet, the son keeping a portion of the grocer's shop. The son went out in the evening and when he returned, he found his dead father lying inside the back door with his head battered in and the whole apartment giving the appearance of a slaughterhouse. The throat had been cut from ear to ear. Near the body lay a poker that had been taken from an adjoining room and not far away was a carving knife, which had last been seen in the kitchen drawer from where the murder had apparently taken it. Upon the alarm being given a search of the house was made and it was discovered that money had been taken from a wardrobe the exact amount is unknown. There was an entry into the house 12 months ago when £20 was taken. Chuter was a man of considerable means and had a good deal of cottage property in the district. Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary but so far has not made an arrest. **290**

1888 March 1: Prize Fighting: At the Chertsey Court yesterday Charles Mitchell the well-known professional pugilist was summoned for having at Pyrford or elsewhere agreed to fight a prize fight with **John L Sullivan, the American pugilist.** Defendant appeared personally accompanied by Charles Powell and Jake Kilrain. Superintendent Bungard of the Surrey Constabulary, the complainant, deposed that he had reason to believe the defendant contemplated a breach of the peace. Evidence was given that the defendant had been in training at Pyrford three weeks. Defendant said he had no intention of breaking the peace in England. He was bound over in £200 and two sureties £200 each – the bond was for the whole of England.[291]

1890 January 1: After serving **39 years** in the Surrey Constabulary 18 as the head of Chertsey Division **Supt Bungard retired** yesterday as a consequence of ill-health, He is to be presented with a public testimonial.[292]

[289] 1887 November 16: Burglary Egham: The Standard:
[290] Lancaster Gazette January 18, 1888
[291] 1888 1 March: The Scotsman
[292] 1890 January 1: The Evening News:

1890 January 18 Surrey Advertiser: Presentation to Mr AH Bungard: A pleasing and highly gratifying tribute of respect and token of goodwill was presented to MR AH Bungard on Monday afternoon. Mr Bungard as is well known was for 39 years a trusted and valued member of the Surrey Constabulary and for some 18 years was the superintendent of the Chertsey division. A testimonial fund is being liberally subscribed to by residents of the division and independently of this, it was thought by the men who had served under him that they should demonstrate the esteem in which they had held their old superintendent as well as the good feeling that exists between them. The project was no sooner formed than it was taken up with zest, not only by the officers and men of the division but by many who serve in the force elsewhere, and who have at some time or other been under Mr Bungard.

A handsome sum was subscribed and expended on an Oliver Cromwell chair inscribed "Presented to Mr Superintendent. Bungard by the member of the Chertsey Division of the Surrey Constabulary, as a mark of their esteem and respect on his retirement from the force after 39 years' service. January 1890." The presentation was made at the police station on Monday afternoon with 46 men of the division who could attend as was his successor Mr Bryant. Mr Inspector Collis asked Mr Bungard's acceptance of the chair together with an illuminated address the wording of which was similar to that on the plate (on the chair) followed by a list of subscribers including Inspectors Baker, Collis, Dennett, Edgler, Hackman and King; Sergeants Biddlecombe, Boon, Campbell, Larby and Skinner, and every constable on the division with several stationed outside it.

The address was the work of Sergeant Boon (Weybridge) by whom it was also neatly framed and glassed Mr Bungyard to whom the presentation came as a complete surprise said he had many hard knocks while in the service, the marks of which he could show. But the presentation was the hardest knock because he did not know how to return it. He assured the donors that he valued their gift, not only for its intrinsic value, but for the good feeling which prompted the presentation of so splendid a piece of furniture. A photograph was taken by Mr Bates outside the police station by the corner of the road with Mr Bungard sitting in the centre in his new chair. The division had another surprise shortly after Mr Bungard reached home Inspector Edgeler and other officers visited him, bringing a valuable silk umbrella with which they presented Mrs Bungard. The umbrella has a silver plate on which the lady's name is inscribed.

1890 February 3 Surrey Advertiser: The Bungard Testimonial: The presentation: It was thought that a substantial acknowledgement should be made of the ability, efficiency and discretion which, during 18 years he had discharged the duties devolving on him; and the opportunity should be taken by the public to mark their appreciation of Mr Bungards estimable personal qualities. A committee was formed and subscriptions rapidly flowed in some £180 being given by 260 subscribers. A large dining room clock and vases weighing 1cwt were selected by Mr Bungard from a shop in Chertsey. was purchased for £30 providing a purse of £150. There was a presentation in the town hall with many present. Following a peach from the chairman Mr Bungard thanked everyone for their kindness. He said it had been his constant desire to do his duty and he hoped he had carried out this desire during the 39 years he had

served in the Surrey County Constabulary. It was a proud moment in his young life when he first joined the force; and he could hardly tell how very proud he was that at the end of his term of service a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen would have subscribed to a testimonial. Mr Bungard was warmly congratulated by many friends before leaving the room.

1891 October 24: Death of Mr Bungard: On Thursday of last week Mr Bungard former Superintendent of Police in the district died at his residence at Eastworth. [293] he was unfortunately taken ill soon after entering private life but recovered to some extent till a few weeks before his demise when his case became practically hopeless. As a police officer Mr Bungard was a man of sterling merit, whilst in his private capacity he also made hosts of friends. His death may truly be said to have occasioned a general feeling of regret in the district.

1891 October 24 West Middlesex Herald: **Funeral of ex-Superintendent Bungard**: On Tuesday afternoon the funeral of the late ex-Superintendent Bungard took place at Chertsey cemetery in the presence of several hundred sympathisers. The following officers and constables of the Surrey Constabulary paraded at the police station and proceeded to the deceased's residence where they escorted the coffin to the cemetery. Superintendent Bryant, Superintendent Collis (Farnham), Inspectors Edgler, King, Bon, Police Sergeant Skinner, Larby, Wright and Holdford. Constables Mears, Woolger, Newton, Knight, Divine, Richardson, Matthews, Wootton, Carpenter, Lucas, Bishop, Hewett, baker, bested, Kinneson, Rose, Hole, West, Kirk, Bird, Shenton, Miles, Moore, Millard F Knight and Wilkinson. The coffin was borne by relays of constables. The coffin bore the inscription "Alfred Henry Bungard died October 16th, 1891 aged 59 years". Details of other standing the funeral are given as are inscriptions from wreaths. Owing to various important matters many of the members of the Surrey Constabulary who had intended to be present were unable to follow the remains of the deceased to their last resting place.

[293] There is an Eastworth Road in Chertsey in 2021

Superintendent James William Parr
Appointment 93 Surrey Constabulary 14 March 1851
Deputy Chief Constable
Died in Service 1868 Scarlet Fever

Parents: William Parr and Charlotte Parr nee Fisher

Married: 1854 to Emma Eliza Harrington, at Braintree, Essex.

1841 Census: Living with parents, aged 10 years and sisters Jane 2 years and Hannah 5 months. They are living in Lowestoft, Suffolk.

1851 Census: Living Godstone Village, Godstone Surrey, as a Lodger, occupation Policeman.

1851 A Rope maker before joining Surrey Constabulary

1851 March 14 joined Surrey Constabulary. Age 20 1851 5 feet 10 inch, born Lowestoft.

GO 58 1 September 1851 from third to second class at 19s a week.

GO 68 1 January 1852 promoted second to first class

GO 72 2 February 1852 First class constable to inspector.

GO 91 13 January 1853 appointed inspector and clerk to the Chief Constable on a salary of £63 from 1 January 1853

GO 97 25 **May 1853** appointed as an inspector in charge of Guildford Division and Borough

GO 108 1 February1854 To Superintendent when post of inspector and clerk abolished – salary £80pa. Posted HQ Division.

GO 110 25 April 1854 pay to £90 pa

GO 114 7 November 1854 Guildford division vice Radley

1861 Census: Living Woodbridge Road, County Police Station, with wife Emma, occupation Superintendent of Police

1868 July 19 Died scarlet fever Stoke next Guildford

From the Newspapers

1855 August: Newspaper Article Inspector Donaldson [294] The inhabitants of this usually quiet locality were thrown into the utmost consternation on Sunday; by one of the most atrocious murders, it has ever been our painful duty to record.

The facts are briefly these: -Shortly after midnight on Saturday, William Donaldson, inspector in the County Constabulary, and police-constable Freestone, of the same force, proceeded to the King's Arms Inn, Haslemere, and directed several persons, chiefly brick makers employed on the new Railway to Portsmouth, to leave the tap room, where they were drinking. There was no riot or ill feeling and the company left. Shortly afterwards, the dreadful occurrences, full particulars of which are subjoined, took place.

About four o'clock in the morning intelligence was conveyed to Superintendent Burridge, at Godalming, that the inspector and constable were seriously injured in a riot. He at once communicated with Superintendent Parr, of Guildford, and Mr Vickers, of the borough police, both of whom took active measures to intercept any persons answering the description of the rioters. Mr Burridge lost no time in going to Haslemere, where he found that the inspector had died of the dreadful injuries he had received. The measures adopted by the constabulary were so prompt and judicious that in the course of a few hours five of those principally concerned in the outrage were apprehended. Their names are Thomas Wood, Samuel Eastwood, alias "Sam," Thomas Foyle alias "Punch," and two brothers names Blackman, one of them a lad of 15 or 16 years of age. The whole of them are brick makers. They were taken before J. Steadman, Esq, at Guildford, and remanded till today.

On the following Friday, Inspector Donaldson was buried at St Bartholomew's Church. Whatever the neglect of future generations might be, the memory of his bravery was still fresh in the minds of the townspeople and his colleagues, and they united to give him a hero's funeral.

The Chief Constable was unable to attend, but most of his senior officers were there. Apart from the family mourners the coffin was followed by four of the five Divisional Superintendents, namely, Messrs Parr (Guildford), Burridge (Godalming), Everett (Farnham), and Page (Dorking). Then came Inspectors Frost and Murtell. Behind them marched a column of thirty-two constables, all wearing ceremonial mourning sashes. Following the police contingent came some fifty of the principal inhabitants, in procession, and behind them came all the townspeople who were not already lining the route to see the cortege pass. The shops of the town remained closed during the day, as a final tribute of respect and sympathy. At the Parish Church the Rector, the Reverend Hesse, was waiting to perform the burial service. In the Burial Register the event is recorded without any comment. 'No.892. William Donaldson, of Haslemere, aged forty-seven August 3rd 1855'. The Inspector's grave is not included in the list compiled at the close of the nineteenth century, and it is assumed that either no permanent

[294] Weald of Kent Mail August 1855

memorial was erected, or that it was removed when the church was rebuilt in the eighteen-seventies.

1856 August 12: Guildford County Police Business: Committal of a Police Constable Isaac (?) Jyles of the Surrey Constabulary charged by Superintendent Parr with neglect of duty by disobeying his orders. It appears that the prisoner had been ordered on the previous morning by the Superintendent to proceed by rail to Ash and from thence to Aldershot camp to institute enquiries relative to a prisoner in custody at the County Police Station, and was desired to return by rail, so as to arrive in Guildford by 5'oclock instead of which he did not make an appearance until 9 o'clock that evening and then the worst for liquor. He was desired to return to his station at Ash and shortly afterwards was found by Inspector Coward drinking in a public house in the town and the Inspector thereupon conducted him to the station where his staff and handcuffs were taken from him and he was again ordered to Ash, but this order he also disobeyed and remained in Guildford during the night. The next morning, he was taken into custody and was dismissed form the force by the Chief Constable Captain Hastings, by whose direction he was taken before the magistrates for neglect of duty. He was committed to the House of Correction at Wandsworth for one month with hard labour whither he was conveyed shortly after.[295] [296]

1856 October 21: County Police Office Guildford: John Payne a leather dresser of Godalming was charged by Superintendent Parr with being a **deserter** from the 2nd Royal Surrey Militia on the 22 May 1855 and was convicted in the penalty of £20 and in default of immediate payment was committed to the House of Correction at Wandsworth for six months with hard labour. The magistrate said he had no power either to mitigate the penalty or the term of imprisonment, the law being imperative for such an offence.[297]

1857 May 2: Guildford County Bench: James Smith was brought up under the following circumstances. Inspector Parr said on the 20th the prisoner was brought to him by Stephen Bungay saying he was a **deserter from the Royal Marines.** He was warned if he said he was a deserter and it turned out he was not he was liable to three months in prison. This was repeated in the presence of the clerk to the magistrate but a letter has been received from the Royal Marine saying he was not a deserter from them. The prisoner then said he was a deserter from the Royal Marine Artillery. Remanded for further enquiries.[298]

1857 May 2: Guildford County Bench: Licensee charged with keeping illegal hours with evidence from Inspector Parr and PC Ederfield. Location was not given. A fine of 40s with costs amounting to £3 1s.[299]

[295] 1856 August 12: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[296] No mention of this prosecution in General Orders
[297] 1856 October 28: The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[298] 1857 May 2 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[299] 1857 May 2 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

1857 July 11: Guildford County Bench: Inspector Parr Surrey Constabulary, summoned Mrs Smith a grocer from Godalming for having defective weights. A fine of £1[300]

1857 July 11: Guildford County Bench: Inspector Parr summoned Mr Nash of Witley for having defective scales for which he was charged just court expenses.[301]

1857 July 11: Guildford County Bench: Inspector Parr prosecuted Edmund Collins a beer housekeeper of West Horsley for having deficient measures. The case was dismissed but the defendant would have to pay expenses.

1857 October 17: Guildford County Bench: Richard Chennel had in his possession several illegal measures when found by Inspector Parr at St Catherine's fair; £2 and costs. [302]

Also found by Inspector Parr, Elizabeth Lock from the White Hart at Reading, who had incorrect measures at the fair; a fine of £1 including expenses.[303]

1857 November 7 West Surrey Times: Between ten and eleven o'clock the Mayor accompanied by some friends went over the bridge when he addressed those assembled and said as the fire was nearly out, he should advise them to go home. They listened to him and after he finished proposed three cheers for the Mayor which was no sooner responded to than the **police most mistakenly made a rush at the crowd and knocked them downright** and left, many getting their heads cut open, The Mayor himself had a very narrow escape. His Worship afterwards addressed the police on the bridge and said there was nothing to justify the attack they had recently made. The police then moved up the town, followed by an immense mob, who hooted and threw stones at them.

Throughout the whole of Friday, the leading topic of conversation was the proceedings of the overnight. As in other instances some were of the opinion that sufficient force ought to have been provided or nothing done in the matter; but most certainly the prevailing feeling was, that but for the County Police all would have passed of very quietly. The attack made by them when the Mayor was addressing the people was most unjustifiable and if anything is wanted to prove this, the rebuke given by the Mayor on the bridge almost immediately afterwards is a complete answer, his worship observing there was not the slightest provocation for it, and if they did so he could not wonder at the people retaliating. Our reporter was close to the Mayor when these remarks were made and so he was when the attack was made, and he heard (as did several others) loud cries of "Murder and help" on the part of the people. For a short time, the scene was a fearful one. The inquiry everywhere is who gave the orders for this attack? But no one can give an answer. We are informed and upon the best authority that Superintendent Parr made himself very active and was seen to knock one man down, and strike three children; and report says that in order that he should not be recognised he doffed his uniform and appeared in a

[300] 1857 July 11: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[301] 1857 July 11: The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[302] 1857 October 17 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser
[303] 1857 October 17 The Sussex Express, Surrey Standard Weald of Kent Mail, Hants and County Advertiser

white slop frock and fisherman's fantail hat, in which state he was addressed, and we believe, reproved by the Mayor near the White Lion Inn. Our reporter was standing by but did not hear what was said. The Superintendent advanced to our reporter and in the most insolent manner said (we can quite understand why) "We want no listeners." The Mayor however cut the comb of the Superintendent by desiring him to be quiet, adding that our reporter had witnessed what had taken place and from this observation we have little doubt but that the worthy Mayor had been complaining in some way or other. At this moment stones flew in all directions and the police with their disguised superintendent beat a hasty retreat and made the best of their way to the County Police station, followed by the mob, who broke a number of the windows.

1857 November 14 West Surrey Times: It would appear that with the exception of a few squibs in the street all was passing off very quietly until about nine o'clock when a mob of 50-100 were seen emerging from Mount Street and other places with faggots etc., which they proceeded to pile up in the centre of the road near the church, and speedily ignited them. The police on duty endeavoured to stop them but failed in doing so being assailed with flints and other large stones which knocked down two of the constables as mentioned in our last edition. Instructions were sent off for reinforcements of police which shortly after arrived making a force of between 3930 and 40 men under the direction of Mr Superintendent Parr. This officer led his men round by Quarry Street, Mill Lane, through the Bury Fields to the Portsmouth Road thence to the top of Mount Street the mob, meantime having increased to nearly a thousand people.

The police having formed at the top of Mount Street, charged down upon the mob below indiscriminately knocking down all who came in their way, and such was the force of the charge that for a moment all that were around the fire were dispersed, but before the police had passed over the bridge the mob had reassembled, and several skirmishes took place, until at last, armed with large stones pursued them up the High Street, throwing their missiles with terrible force and with almost fatal aim.

To say this was a retreat would perhaps be a misnomer, for the constables bolted helter-skelter and but for the seriousness of the matter, in a most ludicrous manner. The mob followed them, showering with stones and any other missile which came to hand, until the police station was reached, when the police took shelter, the mob contenting themselves with smashing the windows and doing other damage. Then they returned to the neighbourhood of the fire which being replenished without opposition continued until three o'clock on Friday morning at which time the mob quietly dispersed.

It was during the charge from Mount Street that PC Charles Carpenter received a blow on the left eye from a stone. Some person who happened to be next to the constable picked him up and took him to the Greyhound Inn where it was discovered that a portion of the poor fellow's eye was actually protruding from the socket. Mr H Taylor, surgeon, shortly after arrived and did all that was possible to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate man. Carpenter has entirely lost his left eye and the medical gentleman considers it extremely doubtful sight will be restored to the other.

Several other constables were severely injured and it is indeed astonishing, considering the severity of the conflict that no fatal results ensued.

Several of the mob also received severe contusions from the staves of the policemen and in on cease a poor fellow who had been fearfully cut about the head has since died, but whether from the effects thereof or otherwise, has not been clearly proved.

1857 December 22: Guildford County Court: Alleged assault by police on **5th November:** William Downes v James William Parr and Gransbury John Bullimer. An action brought to recover the sum of £30 as damages for an assault, alleged to have been committed by the defendants upon the plaintiff during the disturbances in the town on the night of the 5 November. This is a long and detailed report in the newspaper, which will be shortened. Downes was a bricklayer and Parr a superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary. Bullimer is a constable in the Guildford Division. (Believed Surrey Constabulary Ripley obviously on aid). Downes left the Ram public house about nine o'clock and crossed to the Bury Street side of the bridge. He saw a row of policeman standing; Mr Parr was wearing long white frock similar to a countryman's and he had a sou'wester on his head. As I got to the centre of the bridge Mr Parr gave the order to clear the road and Mr Parr went up to him, sized him and pressed him close to the railings of the bridge. The other policeman who was behind Downes, struck a severe blow to his face cutting his lip and rendering him nearly senseless. When he recovered his senses Bullimer tried to drag him away. Under cross-examination Downes was asked, as a local resident, was he not aware a serious disturbance was apprehended? He said he was not. Did he know a number of special constables were sworn in? He knew nothing about it. He knew there were only four or five constables attached to Guildford and he recognised there were more than that in the town as they were walking around in pairs. I did not know Mr Parr and I was unaware he was dressed as he was because his uniform had earlier been torn to pieces.

Downes was aware that on a previous 5th November the Riot Act had been read in Guildford. He saw no disturbance, he was not there when stones were thrown at police causing injuries, he did not see the police trying to put a fire out, he did not see people coming towards the fire with railings and gates to keep the fire up. He did not see anyone masked or disguised. (It seems that the county constables may well have been sworn in as special constables for the evening. If that is the case this opens up many issues about normal day-to-day policing between borough and county men).

The defence solicitor: Guildford being a borough the justices have the power of requesting the chief officer of the constabulary for Surrey to afford them a certain number of constables for duty and whom he should show were as the statute required duly sworn to act as Special Constables. A Guildford magistrate gave evidence that as a serious disturbance was apprehended on the night of 5th November 25 members of the Surrey Constabulary were sworn to act as special constables in the borough on that night. The men including Superintendent Parr were sworn in at about 6pm either on the 4th or 5th before the mayor at the County Police

Station. The men were therefore acting in the execution of their duty the only question was, did they use more violence than was necessary?

After some legal debate the judge told the jury that he must direct a non-suit to be entered in this case in as much as the plaintiff was bound to give a month's notice (As a police officer was involved. An Act for amending the laws relative to the appointment of Special Constables and for the better preservation of the peace for the protection of persons acting under the Act). Costs were awarded. [304]

1858 January 15 Establishment[305]

Division	Rank	Name	Address	Force
Headquarters	Chief Constable	Captain Hastings	Guildford	
Headquarters	Sup & Sec	Mr James W Parr	Guildford	46 men
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr TH Glamorgan	Witley	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr Alfred H Bungard	Guildford	
Headquarters	Inspector	Mr George Newland	Ash near camp	

1863 November 6: Guy Fawkes Day at Guildford: (A report on the 5th before the events of the day) Steps had been taken to prevent the previous year's rioting but the "Guys" had resolved not to be deprived of their accustomed bonfire and procession. The mayor had arranged for: fifty Dragoons who came by road and one hundred and fifty men who came by special train from Aldershot, and then marched to their quarters in various public houses in the town. Upwards of one hundred and fifty special constables and two local corps of the Rifle Volunteers the 13th and 24th were ordered to be ready to assist the public peace. The County Constabulary under Superintendent Parr and Mr. Inspector Barker have had supplementary forces to prevent any outbreak beyond the jurisdiction of the borough authorities. Today the town is in a state of great excitement. [306]

1864 March 30: The volunteer Review Blackheath: Whilst the troops were engaged in marching on the heath the public assembled on the heath, amused themselves in the best manner they could, either by witnessing the performance of the itinerant melodists, jugglers and others of that ilk or in fortifying the inner man by substantial luncheons etc., amply provided at the numerous booths of local and other publicans. The grandstand was under the immediate control of the Surrey Constabulary as were also the general arrangements for preserving the peace in all parts of the heath. These arrangements **reflected great credit upon Captain Hastings (the Chief Constable)** who was assisted by Deputy Chief Constable Mr JW Parr and other members of his staff[307]

[304] 1857 December 22 The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette
[305] 5 January 1858 South Eastern Gazette
[306] 1863 6 November: The Times
[307] 1864 March 30 The Sussex Advertiser Surrey Gazette

1865 September 16: James William Parr Deputy Chief Constable, **Attempted Double Murder** at **Hascombe** 31 March 1866: Mary Ann Underwood, wife of William. James Oliver was having lunch at the cottage of Mr and Mrs Underwood when an argument deteriorated and Oliver drew his gardening knife and stabbed Mr Underwood in the throat. Mrs Underwood went to help her husband and was stabbed but both were able to leave the cottage and run down the road shouting "We are stabbed; we are stabbed." Oliver chased them and was just behind when a coachman hit him with a stick and whilst trying to take the knife from his hand he was cut severely about the throat. The only way the knife could be released from the grip of Oliver was to cut the sinews. Police were called and Oliver was taken into custody. Mrs Underwood was in an extremely dangerous condition. [308] See March 31, 1866

1865 December 9: Surrey Quarter Sessions: Stealing at the Guildford Union: William Colton 35, described as a labourer charged with stealing a quantity of copper wire value 2s from the Poor Law Union, Stoke-next- Guildford. MR JW Parr Deputy Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary left the workhouse one afternoon and the next morning it was found that the robbery had been committed. The prisoner pleaded guilty and several previous convictions for vagrancy and trivial offences were proved. Sentenced to twelve months imprisonment at Wandsworth with hard labour.[309]

1866 March 31: **Guildford Borough Bench**: George Tubbs was charged with causing an obstruction in the public highway. Deputy Chief Constable Parr Surrey Constabulary said that on Saturday 17 inst., he was walking in Stoke Road when he came across a **rafter lying across the whole of the footpath and a portion of the road. He nearly fell over the wood an**d a lady behind him did. Fined 1s and 11s costs. Carters must be careful how they tie up their horses, said the Mayor.[310]

1866 June 23: An elderly man Richard Baker was charged with **vagrancy** by Deputy Chief Constable Mr Parr after PC Reid of the Surrey Constabulary took Baker to the police station. Baker had 11d on him and some bread. Discharged with a caution.

1866 July 14: Attempted murder at Shere: On Saturday at Guildford James Longhurst was remanded in custody charged with attempting to murder Jane Sax at Gomshall on Thursday 28th ult. Deputy Chief Constable Mr Parr produced the following certificate: This is to certify that Jane Sax is unable to leave the hospital to undergo any examination before the magistrates. Signed Henry H Hilliard, House Surgeon, Royal Surrey Hospital, July 6, 1866. The child it is understood will not be able to give evidence for some time to come, although happily she is out of danger.[311]

1866 July 23: Special County Bench: Another caution to drivers: William Tugwell a carter was on the evidence of Deputy Chief Constable Mr Parr found guilty of **being asleep** while

[308] Surrey Advertiser 16 September 1865
[309] 1865 December 9 Surrey Advertiser
[310] 1866 March 31 Surrey Advertiser
[311] 1866 July 14 Sheldrake's Aldershot and Sandhurst Military Gazette

being the driver of a waggon on the high road at Shalford on the evening 2 July. He was ordered to pay 10s expenses without a fine. [312]

1866 July 23: County Bench: James Longhurst appeared on **remand for the attempted murder** of Jane Sax at Shere. Deputy Chief Constable Parr produced a certificate from Mr Hilliard a surgeon at the county hospital stating Jane Sax was unable to leave the hospital. He therefore asked for a further 7 days on remand in custody.[313]

1866 December 15: Mysterious burglary Chilworth: A very daring burglary was enacted at the residence of Mr H Allnutt, paper manufacturer, Chilworth towards the close of last week. It was discovered at about 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening that a window had been tampered with so as to leave an entrance into the scullery. The window, however, was secured and the door to the scullery fastened. During the nigh the son of the house heard a noise at about 2am, rushed downs stairs and was struck by someone in the darkness. No trace was later found of the burglar but cash and jewellery were stolen. Information was passed to Deputy Chief Constable Mr Parr of the Surrey Constabulary at Guildford in whose hands the case rests.[314]

1867 April 13: Charge against late constable: James Holden late constable Surrey Constabulary was **charged with being drunk** while engaged as a constable in the execution of his duty. Police Sergeant Lambert deposed: James Holden was a constable in the Surrey Constabulary. I put him on duty with written instructions on the 1 April. He was to go to the union and then he was to go on the route mentioned on his ticket. He was sober when he left the station. He left it without leave at half past four in the afternoon and did not return until ten minutes past eight. He was then drunk. He ought to have gone off duty at half past seven. He was useless for duty. PC Pike number 20 deposed: At a quarter to one on Tuesday morning 2 April I met the defendant at Hatchlands Park Gate in a state of drunkenness. He was in uniform. I told him I would report him. I directed a brother constable to see him on the road, and that if he could not take care of himself, convey him to the station.

In answer to the bench the prisoner said he had formerly been in the army; he had a good discharge. While engaged once on picket duty a drunken soldier cut him on the head and he was consequently soon overcome by drink He was very sorry for what had occurred. He belonged to Hepwood (?) in Surrey. He hoped the bench would overlook the offence as he had already been locked up for three days and two nights and the affair was a great trial to him. Deputy Chief Constable Mr Parr said the prisoner had a good discharge from the army. Chief Constable Captain Hastings said he did not wish to press the case hardly, and he was sorry to have to bring it forward; but for the sake of discipline, it was necessary to bring the case forward.

[312] 1866 July 23 Surrey Advertiser
[313] 1866 July 23 Surrey Advertiser
[314] 1866 December 15 Surrey Advertiser

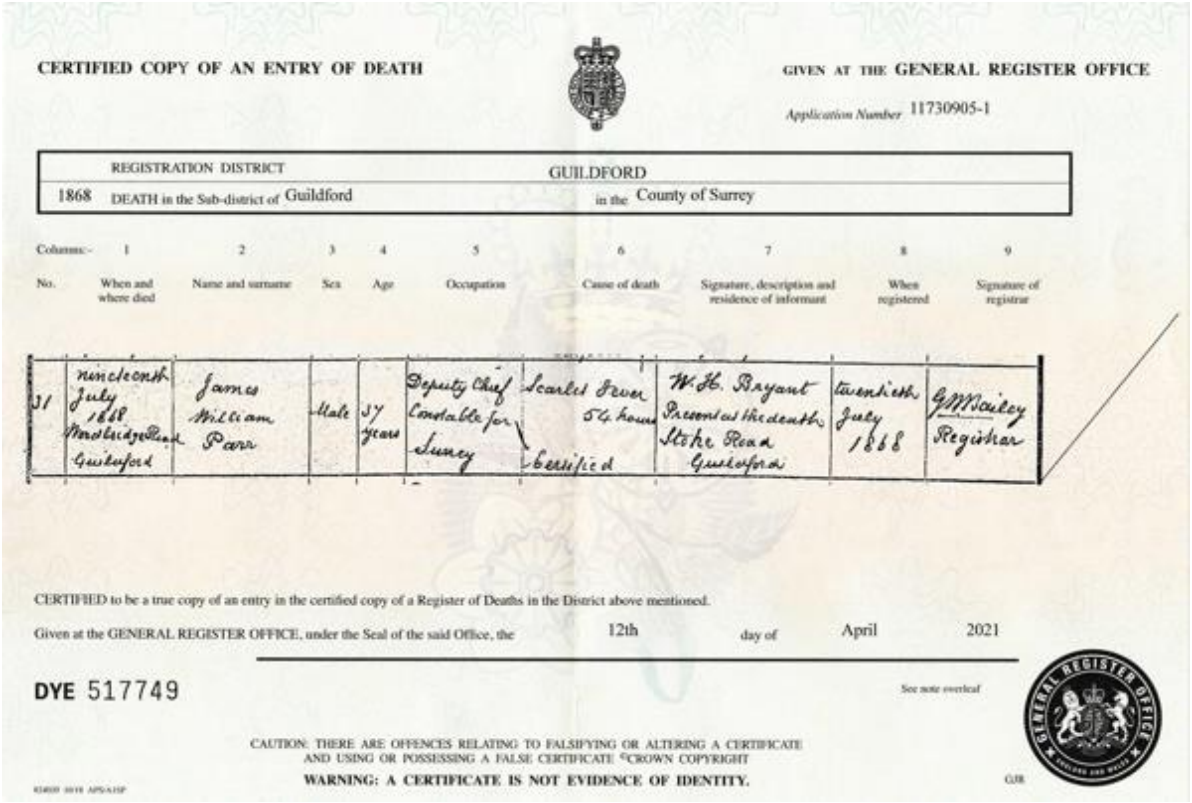
The Bench remarked on the great impropriety of such conduct by a person placed in position prisoner had held, but the bench did not wish to punish heavily. He must however, pay £1 (including 12s expenses) or go to prison for three weeks. It appears there was no salary due to the prisoner from the police and he was locked up in default.[315] (£1 was about a week's pay and he had obviously no savings probably due to spending on drink)

1867 September 21 County Bench: Guildford: Samuel Smith a vagrant was charged with **begging** having been seen going to several houses in London Road by PC Woods. The constable took him into custody where he was found to have a halfpenny. Deputy Chief Constable, Superintendent Parr Surrey Constabulary said the prisoner was an old offender with a list of convictions and sentences of imprisonment. The chairman said it seemed useless to try and reform such characters and sentenced him to one month's imprisonment. [316]

1868 July 23: GO 207: Death of Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable James William Parr who was attacked with malignant scarlet fever (**caught it is believed in the discharge of his duty**) on Friday last the 17th inst., dying on Sunday 19th. The loss of this most excellent officer and upright man will long be felt and by no more by the chief constable. He joined in 1851 as a constable. [317] [318]

1868 September 19: Scarlet Fever: Why did the Chief Constable get into a discussion of health and the impact of scarlet fever upon the town of Guildford?

[315] 1867 April 13: Surrey Advertiser
[316] 1867 September 21: Surrey Advertiser
[317] Surrey Constabulary General Orders Book 1 1851-
[318] SCC CC98/4/1



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 11730905-1

REGISTRATION DISTRICT GUILDFORD

1868 DEATH in the Sub-district of Guildford in the County of Surrey

Columns:- 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
31	nineteenth July 1868 Mostbridge Road Guildford	James William Parr	Male	37 years	Deputy Chief Constable for Surrey	Scarlet Fever 5 days Certified	W.H. Bryant Present at the death Stoke Road Guildford	twentieth July 1868	G.M. Bailey Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 12th day of April 2021

DYE 517749

See note overleaf

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Copy death certificate obtained by Mrs Jean Pelham April 2021

H. C. Hastings, Chief Constable of Surrey.
Guildford, September 19, 1868
Letter to The Times

Sir: Not long ago the Mayor of Guildford, in his zealot vindicate his town from the charge of un-healthiness which has been brought against it, and to convince the public that it was a perfect Montpellier, furnished you with certain statistics of the rate of mortality in preceding years, which unfortunately however for this purpose had no reference whatever to the present state of things.

The death rate of past years provides nothing in regard to the present sanitary condition of a place, and it is the present state of Guildford with which we have to deal.
There have been upwards of 500 cases of scarlet fever, and 40 deaths in a population of 10,000 inhabitants.

This it must be admitted is a very serious state of things and calculated to occasion considerable injury to the town, and yet it will scarcely be credited the authorities have done nothing, have taken no steps to arrest the progress of this terrible and fatal disease.

It is not my present purpose to enter into the vexed question of the deleterious nature of the water, nor the disgraceful state of the drainage, both of which are well known to those who have the misfortune to reside in the town; nor do I mean to attribute the present outbreak of scarlet fever to either, or both of these causes; but as we suffered to a great extent last year from low fever, and in all probability may do so again next year, unless some steps are taken to purify the town, I have thought it right to point out the fallacy of statistics which have reference only to the past, and are therefore calculated to mislead those persons who may have an interest in the present unhealthy state of the town of Guildford.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant
H.C. Hastings
Chief Constable of Surrey
Guildford Sept 19, 1868

The interest in scarlet fever came from the loss of deputy chief constable James Parr who died of the disease aged 37 on July 19, 1868. Parr was a considerable success having joined the Surrey Constabulary aged 20 in March 1851 from Lowestoft and in the 17 years of his service had risen to be the second most senior officer in the force and someone no doubt Hastings relied and saw a great deal of. It is believed that James William Parr caught the disease whilst on duty.

1868 July 22: Chief Constable expressed his sorrow in General Order dated 23 July 1868 [319]:

[319] Durant says 1869

The Chief Constable has the melancholy duty to perform in announcing to the officers and men of the Surrey Constabulary the death of Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable James William Parr, when he was attacked with malignant scarlet fever (caught it is believed in the discharge of his duty) on Friday last, the 17th instant, and to which he fell victim the following Sunday 19th instant, about 2.30 in the afternoon. The virulent character of the disease and the rapid termination, coupled with the unusual hot weather and the Chief Constable's absence at the time, alone prevented an opportunity for the whole of the force following the remains of the Deputy Chief Constable to the grave, in just tribute and respect and regard, otherwise being paid in the name of the deceased officer.[320]

Probate: 12 September 1868

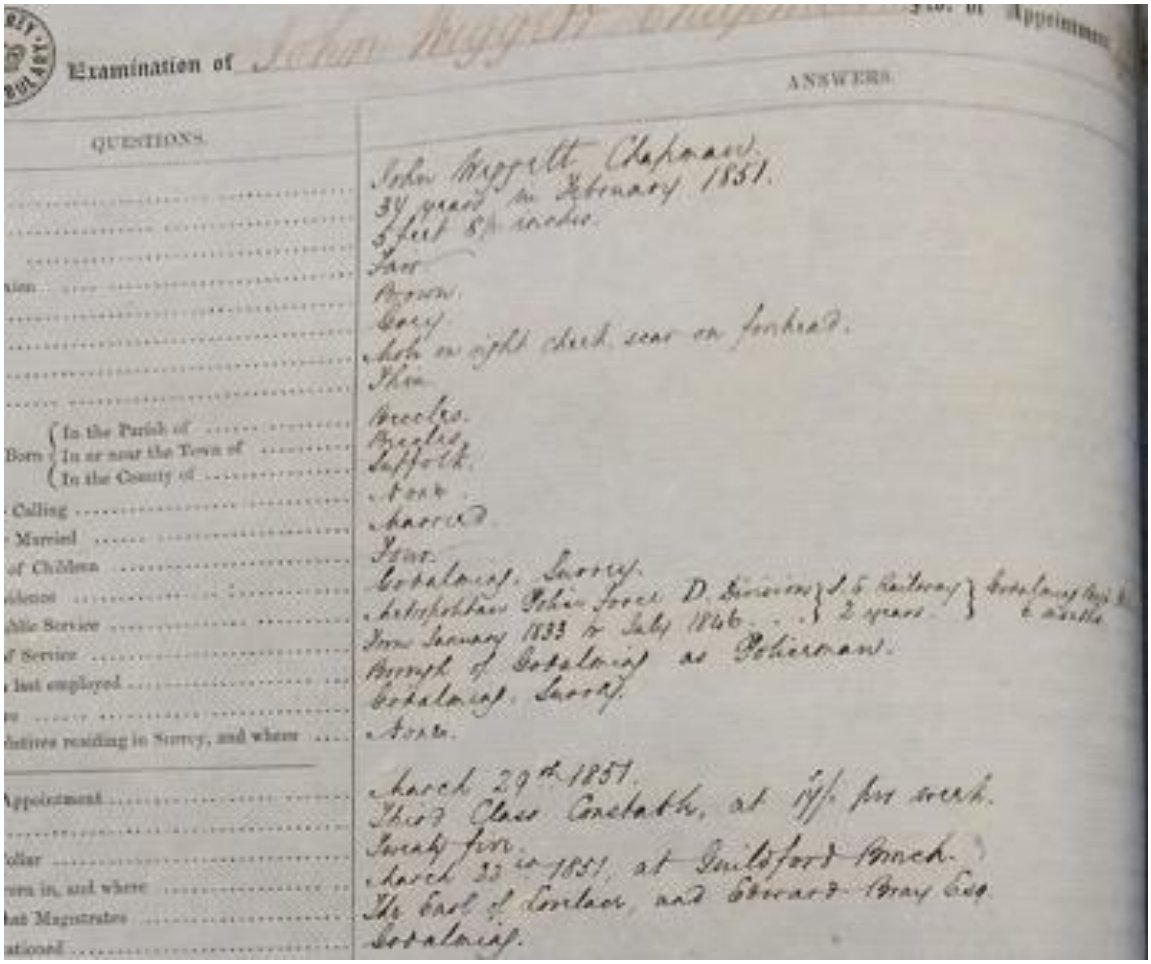
The will of James William Parr late of Guildford in the County of Surrey, Superintendent and Deputy Chief Constable of the Surrey Constabulary deceased who died 19 July 1868 at Guildford aforesaid was proved at the Principal Registry by the oath of Emma Eliza Parr of Essex Villa, Oxford Road, Reading in the County of Berks widow of the Relict the sole Executrix.

Mr Parr's successor Charles Barker served as Deputy Chief Constable for 22 years. [321]

[320] General Order 207 dated 23 July 1868
[321] Durant page 11

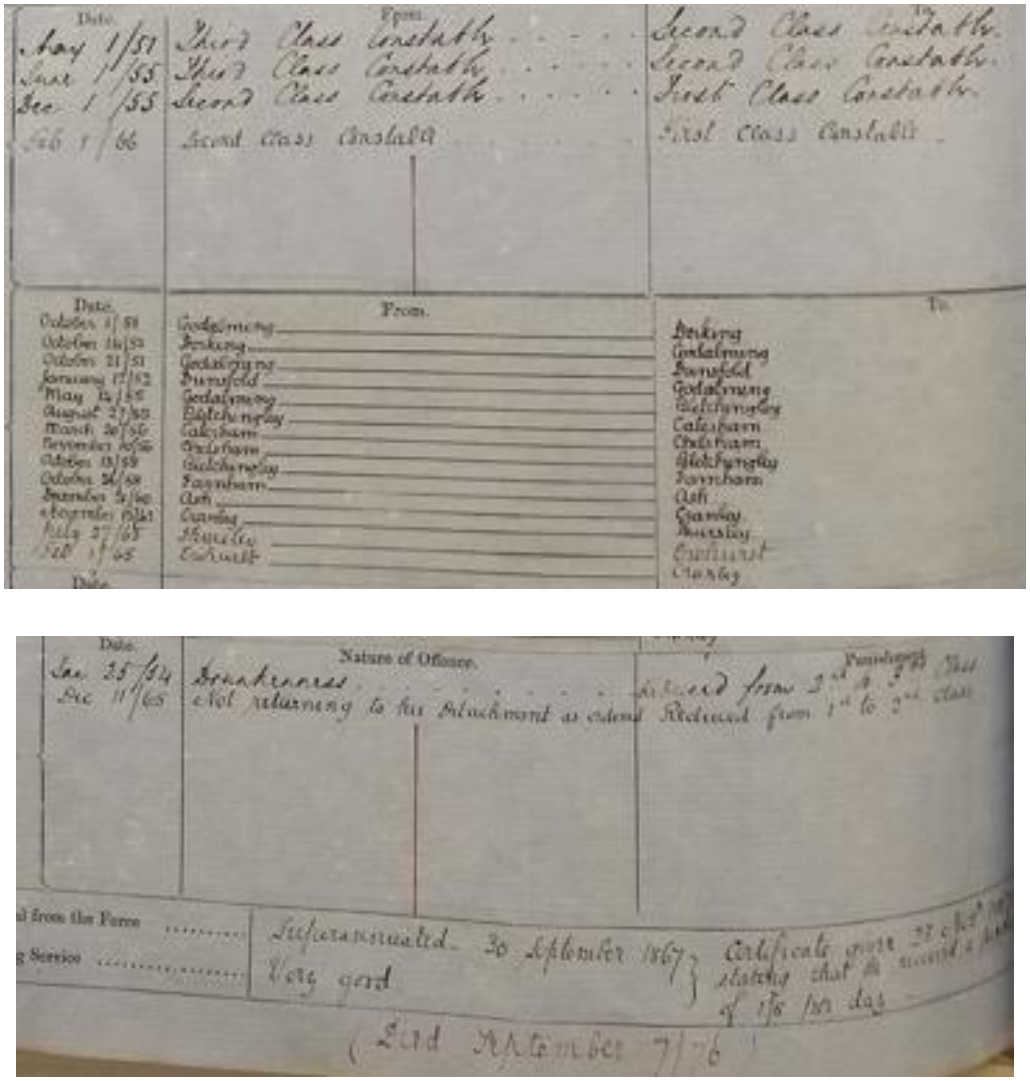
PC John Wiggett Chapman
1834-1867 a Police Officer
Metropolitan Police 11 years
Godalming Borough 6 months
Surrey Constabulary 1851- 1867 Appointment 96
Died 1876

Jenny Tuffs March 2021



Examination of John Wiggett Chapman

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
	John Wiggett Chapman.
	34 years in February 1851.
	5 feet 8½ inches.
	Fair
	Brown.
	Grey
	Both no sight cheek scar on forhead.
	Thin
Born { In the Parish of / In or near the Town of / In the County of	Brockley. Bentley Suffolk.
Calling	Farm
Married	Married
of Children	Four.
dence	Godalming Surrey.
hlic Service	Metropolitan Police Force D. Division 1 & Railway 2 years 6 months
f Service	From January 1833 to July 1846
last employed	Borough of Godalming as Policeman.
	Godalming. Surrey.
dtives residing in Surrey, and where	None.
Appointment	March 29th 1851.
	Third Class Constable, at 17/- per week.
ollar	Sworn for.
ven in, and where	March 31st 1851, at Guildford Bench.
hat Magistrates	The Earl of Lovelace, and Edward Bray Esq.
ationed	Godalming.



Appointment Register[322]

John Chapman joined the police as a young man in 1834 and served through to retirement in the Surrey Constabulary in1867, serving throughout as a constable with many postings across the county. A married man with a number of children no doubt he represented those of the Surrey Constabulary who forged a way of working for the new police force being one of the first one hundred. He died in July 1876.

1813 26th September John Wiggett Chapman was **baptized** at Beccles Independent Church Suffolk. He was born on 15th February 1813 and his parents were Robert, a grocer and Abigail Chapman.

In this first case uncovered John is the victim of the crime, before he joined the police**. 1832 18th October** at The Old Bailey: Thomas Williams was indicted for stealing on 13th October, a tobacco box value 6d and 1 shilling the property of John Wiggett Chapman. The two men

[322] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

lodged in the same room at Nevill's Court Fetter Lane. After complaining to the lodging housekeeper about losing the things the man marked a shilling and sixpence and gave them to Chapman who put them in his waistcoat pocket. Thomas Prothero (City police officer) searched the prisoner and took a marked shilling from his pocket and a tobacco box from his coat. The items were identified by Chapman and the lodging housekeeper. Chapman stated he was not intimate with the prisoner and he never used his tobacco box. The prisoner stated he picked the shilling up and took the tobacco box off the shelf thinking it belonged to another lodger. Williams was found guilty and transported for seven years.

1834 2nd January: John Wiggett Chapman **joined the Metropolitan Police**, warrant number 9110.

1839 15th April at St Mary's Church Westminster John Wiggett Chapman, a policeman whose father was an ironmonger **married** Jane Ann Ryan.

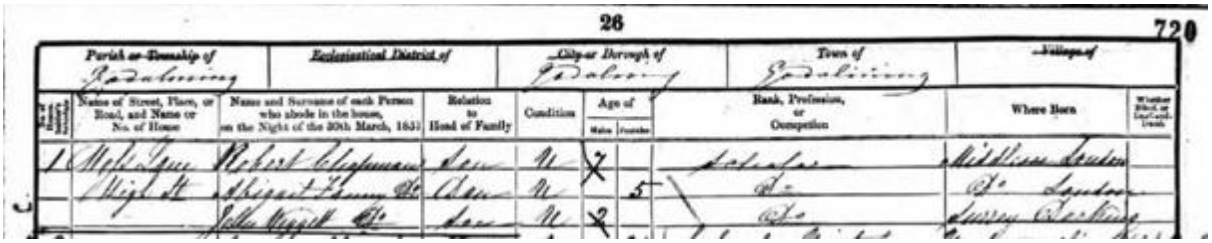
1839 23rd June Edward Robert Chapman was **born Marylebone**, Middlesex, his mother's maiden name was Ryan.

1847 It is believed John Wiggett Chapman **left Metropolitan Police** after 13 years. There is a reference on 31st December 1847 a John Wiggett Chapman admitted privately (not a pauper) to St Lukes Hospital for Lunatics London. He was discharged on 20th April 1848, having recovered. This could be why he left the Metropolitan Police.

1849 April/June quarter John Wiggett Chapman was born Dorking registration district, his mother's maiden name was Ryan.

1851 29th March John Wiggett Chapman joined Surrey Constabulary PC96 age 37, 5 feet 8 ½ inches born in Beccles, Suffolk

1851 Census at Godalming lists John Wiggett Chapman, head of household, policeman born Beccles, Suffolk, his wife Jane Ann born Richmond, Surrey and children Frederick, Robert and Abigail Fanny all born Middlesex and John Wiggett, born Dorking. Edward is living in Blofield, Norfolk with his aunt, Emily Chapman, a schoolmistress.



1851 6th August at Goldalming, Edward Robert Chapman born 23rd June 1840, Frederick Chapman born 8th October 1842, Robert Chapman born 2nd July 1844, Fanny Abigail Chapman born 16th April 1846 and John Wiggett Chapman born 23rd April 1849 were **all baptized**. Their parents were John Wiggett Chapman, a policeman and Jane Ann from Godalming.

1854 28th December: The private baptism took place at Godalming of Algernon Mordaunt Chapman whose parents were John Wiggett, a policeman and Jane Ann Chapman of Bridge Street Godalming.

It is probable that the next two items relate to PC John Chapman but not proven.

1857 May 2: Sussex Agricultural Express. Godstone County Bench. Geo Mitchell of Bletchingley, labourer was **charged with stealing a quantity of iron**, the property of Mr John Weair of Bletchingley. The prosecutor said he met the prisoner in the same field whence he had stolen the iron, the property being in his possession, tied up in an old bag. He challenged the prisoner as to how he came by it, to which the prisoner replied that he had bought it of a man who lived at Wallis's, but that he did not know his name. The witness could see the iron through holes in the bag and the prisoner was ultimately given into the custody of PC Chapman. The prisoner pleaded guilty and elected to have the case decided by the Bench who sentenced him to three months hard labour.

1857 25th July Sussex Agricultural Express: Godstone County Bench: Outdoor Recreation. James Watson was charged with **stealing peas of the value of 9d,** from a field in the occupation of Mr Judson. Mr Judson said, that having some reason to believe that his peas had been stolen, he set a policeman to watch. PC W J Chapman said, that on Sunday morning, 5th July, he saw the defendant in a field belonging to Mr Judson, busily employed picking peas. He was employed in this manner for about an hour and a half. After watching him take his departure through a gap in the hedge, he followed him and found him lying down with a large sack of peas near him. He had evidently been eating some, as his mouth bore indications of that fact. He was then taken into custody. The prisoner said he had a large family and claimed the clemency of the Bench. Mr Judson hoped the Bench would deal leniently with the prisoner who was fined 10s with 16s6d costs allowing a month for payment.

1859 21st May West Surrey Times: **Ash: A soldier killed** on the South Eastern Railway. PC Chapman was a witness at the inquest of the death of William Dunbarton, a private of the 4th Company of 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards stationed at North Camp who had been found on the railway yards from Ash Station on the Tuesday morning, with his head mutilated and

disfigured. PC Chapman stated on Monday night at half past ten o'clock, he saw the guard of the good's train at Ash Church Station, and he then knew nothing of the accident. He saw the guard and engine driver on the following day (Tuesday) and he was referred to the guard placed in front of the wheel on the right side, upon which there was a little hair and blood. After hearing the remainder of the evidence an open verdict was recorded, the deceased having met his death on the Reigate and Reading Branch of the South Eastern Railway, having been struck by an engine.

1859 22nd October West Surrey Times-Borough Quarter Sessions: **Drunk and Abusive.** George Luff, a groom was charged with committing an assault upon Lieutenant Farquharson, residing at Ash Grange on Monday 17th.The complainant stated Luff came home with some horses on the day in question, and while in a state of drunkenness, assaulted him and was very abusive. He had assaulted him several times previously and was very violent and extremely abusive. Luff had, however, sometime since sustained a severe injury in the head, and when he took too much liquor, he was very turbulent and unruly. PC John W Chapman said – I am stationed at Ash. On Monday last I was called upon to take the prisoner into custody, and while in discharge of my duty, the prisoner attempted to assault me by knocking my hat off, and he resisted me very much. The defendant pleaded that he was drunk and he knew nothing of what had transpired. The drink got into his head and he hoped he would not be sent to prison. He was fined 5s with 10s expenses and was required to enter into a surety of £10 to keep the peace for six months, this being the lightest mode of punishment that could be inflicted.

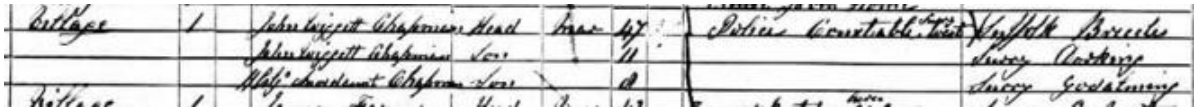
1860 3rd November West Surrey Times – Special County Bench - A Young Swindler – Ann Nichols, a respectable looking female about 20, was charged with **uttering a counterfeit coin** at Ash. Ann Chandler deposed - I live at Ash and on 8th October she came to me and offered to pass a bad coin. She bought a doll, two watch guards, at 6d each, and a pair of bracelets at 8d each. She told me the coin was a 5s piece and that her master often paid her that money. I said, "It's a new coin, is it not" and she said, "Oh, no it's been out a good bit."

I should not have taken the money had I not see her at my brother's, on 6th October. On the 7th she came to me, and on her representation, I took the coin, and gave her 2s 4d change. I put the coin in the till until the afternoon when I took my glasses out, and believing it was not right I gave it to a police constable. PC John Chapman deposed- On the 16th I was informed by the complainant of the above matter and I apprehended the prisoner on Tuesday last. I told her I wanted her to go to Mrs Chandler. She told me she had changed a sovereign, and from changing it received two 5s pieces and a half sovereign at a coffee shop. When at Mrs Chandler's she said she would give the right money.

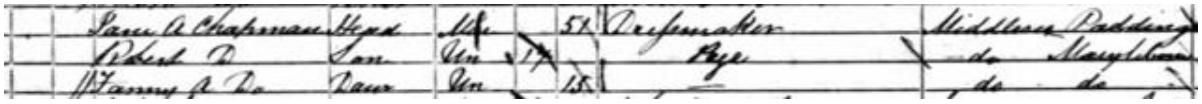
Superintendent Parr then deposed – On Tuesday last the prisoner was brought to the station house and told about the charge. I showed her the coin and she said it was given her by a soldier at the camp, and she did not know but it was of the value of 5s. The prisoner who appeared greatly affected, declined to make a statement. The prisoner was then charged with stealing a pair of boots from a shop. After hearing the facts of this case, Superintendent Parr further intimated that there were four more charges against the prisoner, but they were not proceeded

with. The magistrates committed the prisoner for trial at the Newington Sessions on 19th November.

1861 Census for Cranleigh lists John Wiggett Chapman, married, police Constable living with his children John Wiggett born Dorking, Algernon Morduant born Godalming.



1861 Census Ash Street Ash, Surrey lists Jane A Chapman, head of household, married, dressmaker and her children Robert and Fanny a both born Middlesex.



1861 2nd November West Surrey Times: Guildford County Bench. A Disorderly Street: George Street, a man of respectable appearance was charged with being **drunk and disorderly** at Cranley on 19th October between 12 and 1 o'clock. PC Chapman proved the charge and the defendant was fined 5s.

1861 14th December: West Surrey Times – Guildford – Emily Lassan, a cook in the employ of Mr A Napper of Cranley was charged with **stealing a quantity of provisions**, including bacon, half a large cake, half a dozen small pies, and other articles of food, numbering about thirty in all, from the house of her master, and David Lassan, her father was charged with receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen. Mrs Napper deposed that in consequence of suspicions she entertained she went to the larder on Thursday morning and missed several articles. The pies produced along with other items produced were her property.

PC Chapman deposed – On Thursday morning, I saw the male prisoner going towards his home with a bundle on his back. I asked him what he had got there, and he replied it was his daughter's dirty clothes which her had brought from Mrs Napper's. I felt the bundle and said, "you have got something here besides clothes" and he said, "Not that I know of," he was unwilling that I should undo the bundle. I thereupon took him to my residence and opened the bundle, finding the cakes, pies etc produced. Cross examined by the male prisoner -You said that that was not proper place to open the bundle, but I did not hear you say that you could search me if I went to your house.

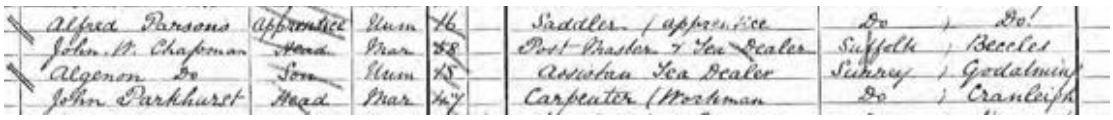
Inspector John Henry Law deposed, "On the 6th inst., I searched the male prisoner's house and found the bacon, produced. I went to Mr Napper's house and apprehended the other prisoner. I told her the charge, and that the articles had been found in the possession of her father. She admitted having given them to him, and said she thought there was no harm in doing so. The female prisoner said her father was innocent as he did not know what was in the bundle, nor did he know where she got the bacon." Both prisoners were committed for trial.

1862 25th October West Surrey Times: Guildford County Bench: Edward Barrett was charged as follows. PC Chapman deposed that on 17inst he saw the defendant in an unoccupied building at Joy Farm Cranley, at one o'clock in the morning. **He was asleep** and when the witness asked him why he was there he replied that he had only gone into the building to sleep. He was sentenced to seven day's hard labour.

1866 22nd September: Surrey Advertiser: William Luff, of the Wheatsheaf, Ewhurst was summoned for having his house open for the **sale of beer after 10 o'clock** 2nd September. PC Chapman, 25, deposed that on the night stated he called at the house and met four men coming from it, who began to jeer him, and used disgusting language. He found a number of mugs on the counter. The defendant asked him what time it was, and he replied five and twenty minutes past ten, when the defendant looked at his watch and said it was a quarter past. Mr Champ appearing for the defendant submitted that he had a right to sell beer up to a moment before ten o'clock, and that the parties had a right to stop a reasonable time to drink it. So, it had been laid down in a celebrated case in the Queen's Bench. Mr Champ called a man named Rees, one of those seen by the constable, who said they had all beer was drawn before ten o' clock and left a few minutes after. The bench said there might have been some discrepancy in the time, and it appeared the defendant had been ten years in the house without having had any complaint against him. The case would therefore be dismissed, but the defendant must be cautious.

1867 30th September PC Chapman retired being granted superannuated pension of 1/8d a day. During his career in Surrey, he had 15 postings and 2 disciplines.

1871 Census Cranleigh Street, Cranleigh lists John W Chapman, married, born Beccles Suffolk, postmaster and tea dealer living with his son Algernon.



Alfred Parsons	Apprentice	Unm	16	Saddler & Apprentice	Do	Do
John W. Chapman	Head	Mar	58	Post Master & Tea Dealer	Suffolk	Beccles
Algernon Do	Son	Unm	15	Assistant Tea Dealer	Surrey	Godalming
John Parkhurst	Head	Mar	47	Carpenter (Workman	Do	Cranleigh

1871 Census Bridge Street, Godalming lists John Wiggett Chapman, a baker and servant to Lasham Edwards, a grocer, baker and pork butcher.

1875 April, John Wiggett **Chapman junior**, 20, of Fishergate Terrace Southwick, Sussex, baker and grocer was declared bankrupt. In April 1889 when he was a baker of Godalming and his discharge from bankruptcy was granted.

1876 died 7 September and **buried 11th September,** John Wiggett at St Nicholas Church Cranleigh.

1876 28th September the **will of John Wiggett** Chapman who died 7th September 1876 at Cranleigh, Surrey was proved at the Principal Registry by Robert Chapman of 92 London Wall, The City of London, solicitor and son, the sole executor. Effects under £450.

1880 22nd September Jane Ann Chapman aged 73 years was **buried** at St Nicholas Church Cranleigh, her residence being Deptford. Although it appears that John and Jane did not live together for years they were reunited at death.

PC 88 Charles Carpenter
Surrey Constabulary Appointment 259
May 1856-July 1859
Blinded on Duty

Photograph 1857 when appointed as village constable at Clandon on 18s a week.

Research by Robert Bartlett, Robert Simonson and Henry and Jean Pelham

Charles Carpenter was not one of the original 100 but he was an officer who left his mark on the new constabulary and therefore has been included with the originals.

Those interested in the Surrey Constabulary history will be aware of this picture of PC Carpenter. This is probably the earliest photograph of a Surrey Constabulary constable though there are more from about the 1880s. However, there was a mystery as having joined in May 1856 he resigned in July 1859, superannuated at 14s a week. There is no mention of a medical pension, such a concept possibly did not exist in the Surrey Constabulary at that time. PC Charles Carpenter was described in 1857 as “an intelligent, inoffensive, young man who had his eye literally driven out of its socket by a large stone.” Blind in one eye, and possibly losing the sight of the other he finally left on fourteen shillings a week. The average pay for a PC in 1851 was £49.10s with Carpenter receiving about £36.10s a year.

Family History from Jean Pelham

Charles Carpenter was born 1836 at Wisboro Green Sussex (Now Wisborough) and died in October 1921 in Hambledon, Surrey. He was buried 1st November 1921 – St James Parish Church, Elstead, Surrey

Parents: Peter Dendy (Father) and Ruth Carpenter (Mother)

1841 Census: Living with parents – aged 4. Father was a coachman.

1841 February, Peter and Ruth married. Living East Street, Petworth.

1851 Census: Living with parents and sister Ellen Carpenter aged 9 East Street, Petworth.

1858 April 21: Charles Carpenter married Jane Blackman – Parish Church, Elstead, occupation police constable.

1861 Census: Living with Jane, his wife, and daughter Annie Blanche. Living in Elstead. Occupation Superannuated Police Constable, Surrey Police Force.

1871 Census: Living with Jane and daughters Annie Blanche and Millette in Elstead. Occupation superannuated police constable and assistant overseer.

1872 – Electoral Roll – Pot Common, Elstead.

1881 Census: Living with Jane and daughters, Annie B and Milliette. Address Pot Common, Thursley Road. Occupation superannuated police constable

1891 Census: Living with Jane and daughters. Occupation assistant overseer

1901 Census: Living with Jane and daughter – Annie B. Occupation assistant overseer

1911 Census: Living with Jane and daughters – Annie and Millette. Living Elstead, Godalming, Surrey. Now aged 73.

1921: Charles Carpenter died October 1921 aged 84. Buried 1st November 1921 – Parish Church, St James, Elstead, Surrey.

Press Cuttings

1857 November 14 West Surrey Times report makes it very clear how badly Carpenter was hurt:

> It was during the charge from Mount Street that PC Charles Carpenter received a blow on the left eye from a stone. Some person who happened to be next to the constable

picked him up and took him to the Greyhound Inn where it was discovered that a portion of the poor fellow's eye was actually protruding from the socket. Mr H Taylor, surgeon, shortly after arrived and did all that was possible to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate man. Carpenter has entirely lost his left eye and the medical gentleman considers it extremely doubtful sight will be restored to the other.

This answers why poor Carpenter left the Job but it was not until July 1859 which means he was retained on full pay for about 20 months. I hope that was the case. One day when the archives reopen maybe the quarter sessions committee papers can be found and there is a reference to PC Carpenter.

The following press cuttings have been located.

1857 August 22, Sussex Agricultural Express: Assaulting the police: Charles Thorne was charged with assaulting PC Carpenter at East Clandon. Pleaded guilty and said was in liquor at the time. PC Carpenter saw Thorne in East Clandon and he was very drunk and making a great deal of noise. Fine of 5s and 15s costs.

1857 November 7 West Surrey Times: George Rickets was charged by PC Carpenter with **stealing** at West Horsley on the 31st ult., a bird and cage value 1s the property of his brother. The prosecutor did not appear so the prisoner was discharged. (It is probable that Carpenter did not attend court as he was seriously hurt at a riot in Guildford)

1857 November 7 West Surrey Times: Guy Fawkes: Most prominent desire of both police and the mob appeared to be the indiscriminate breaking of sculls by both and destruction of property by the latter. We regret to say that owing to the apparent want of courage to attack men in their prime, old men and children fell victim to the staves of the policemen and missiles of the populace. The shops in the town were closed about 6 o'clock, and the mob began to congregate. About twenty of the County Constabulary under the immediate command of Captain Hastings, the chief constable, who had offered them as an additional protection to the borough also commenced parading the town. Nothing of importance took place other than the letting off of a few squibs, to which an additional relish was imported if they could fire under the nose of the police, until 9 o'clock when fire balls were started and a fire lighted in front of St Nicholas church. This being considered a sort of challenge the police made an indiscriminate charge knocking down all who came in the way, both disorderlies, orderlies and evidently had the worst of it, for besides being pelted with large stones by the mob they were reprimanded by the Mayor for their impetuosity.

Serious injuries were received by several of the police among whom were PCs Charles Carpenter, an intelligent, inoffensive, young man who had his eye literally driven out of its socket by a large stone. Roger Parks and Robert Bucket who both had their heads broken by similar missiles.

Several of the mob were also seriously injured. John Jelly a poor man about 60 years of age, and who had come for the purpose of taking his children away was knocked down by a policeman and could not reach home without assistance. A man named Downes, a foreman to Messrs Loe, was quietly returning home from his work when he was struck across the face by a policeman and had his upper lip mutilated dreadfully thereby. A man with his child in his arms was struck down, and two or three children became severe sufferers in the general melee. A pensioner named Linegar received injuries so severe that he was removed to the Greyhound Inn and a surgeon sent for immediately. A mason named Ede was knocked down three times. Stones and other missiles too flew so thick that very few escaped injuries of some kind.

Attacks were made by police upon the mob and the mob upon the police at intervals up to eleven o'clock when a general charge of the populace took place and the whole of the police were driven like rabbits up the High Street, down Market and North Streets to the County police station where they took refuge and the infuriated mob after breaking a few windows, returned to the fire which was replenished with gates and hurdles, railings and boards containing "cautions to trespassers" upon till one o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning. The county police did not show themselves again that night.

The Mayor and Town Clerk, whom Mr Superintendent Vickers attended as a bodyguard, continued however till between twelve and one o'clock.

1857 November 7 West Surrey Times: Between ten and eleven o'clock the Mayor accompanied by some friends went over the bridge when he addressed those assembled and said as the fire was nearly out, he should advise them to go home. They listened to him and after he finished proposed three cheers for the Mayor which was no sooner responded to than the **police most mistakenly made a rush at the crowd and knocked them downright** and left, many getting their heads cut open, The Mayor himself had a very narrow escape. His Worship afterwards addressed the police on the bridge and said there was nothing to justify the attack they had recently made. The police then moved up the town, followed by an immense mob, who hooted and threw stones at them.

Throughout the whole of Friday, the leading topic of conversation was the proceedings of the overnight. As in other instances some were of the opinion that sufficient force ought to have been provided or nothing done in the matter; but most certainly the prevailing feeling was, that but for the County Police all would have passed of very quietly. The attack made by them when the Mayor was addressing the people was most unjustifiable and if anything is wanted to prove this, the rebuke given by the Mayor on the bridge almost immediately afterwards is a complete answer, his worship observing there was not the slightest provocation for it, and if they did so he could not wonder at the people retaliating. Our reporter was close to the Mayor when these remarks were made and so he was when the attack was made, and he heard (as did several others) loud cries of "Murder and help" on the part of the people. For a short time, the scene was a fearful one. The inquiry everywhere is who gave the orders for this attack? But no one can give an answer. We are informed and upon the best authority that Superintendent Parr made himself very active and was seen to knock one man down, and strike three children; and report

says that in order that he should not be recognised he doffed his uniform and appeared in a white slop frock and fisherman's fantail hat, in which state he was addressed, and we believe, reproved by the Mayor near the White Lion Inn. Our reporter was standing by but did not hear what was said. The Superintendent advanced to our reporter and in the most insolent manner said (we can quite understand why) "We want no listeners." The Mayor however cut the comb of the Superintendent by desiring him to be quiet, adding that our reporter had witnessed what had taken place and from this observation we have little doubt but that the worthy Mayor had been complaining in some way or other. At this moment stones flew in all directions and the police with their disguised superintendent beat a hasty retreat and made the best of their way to the County Police station, followed by the mob, who broke a number of the windows.

1857 November 14 West Surrey Times: It would appear that with the exception of a few squibs in the street all was passing off very quietly until about nine o'clock when a **mob of 50-100 were seen emerging from Mount Street** and other places with faggots etc., which they proceeded to pile up in the centre of the road near the church, and speedily ignited them. The police on duty endeavoured to stop them but failed in doing so being assailed with flints and other large stones which knocked down two of the constables as mentioned in our last edition. Instructions were sent off for reinforcements of police which shortly after arrived making a force of between 3930 and 40 men under the direction of Mr Superintendent Parr. This officer led his men round by Quarry Street, Mill Lane, through the Bury Fields to the Portsmouth Road thence to the top of Mount Street the mob, meantime having increased to nearly a thousand people.

The police having formed at the top of Mount Street, charged down upon the mob below indiscriminately knocking down all who came in their way, and such was the force of the charge that for a moment all that were around the fire were dispersed, but before the police had passed over the bridge the mob had reassembled, and several skirmishes took place, until at last, armed with large stones pursued them up the High Street, throwing their missiles with terrible force and with almost fatal aim.

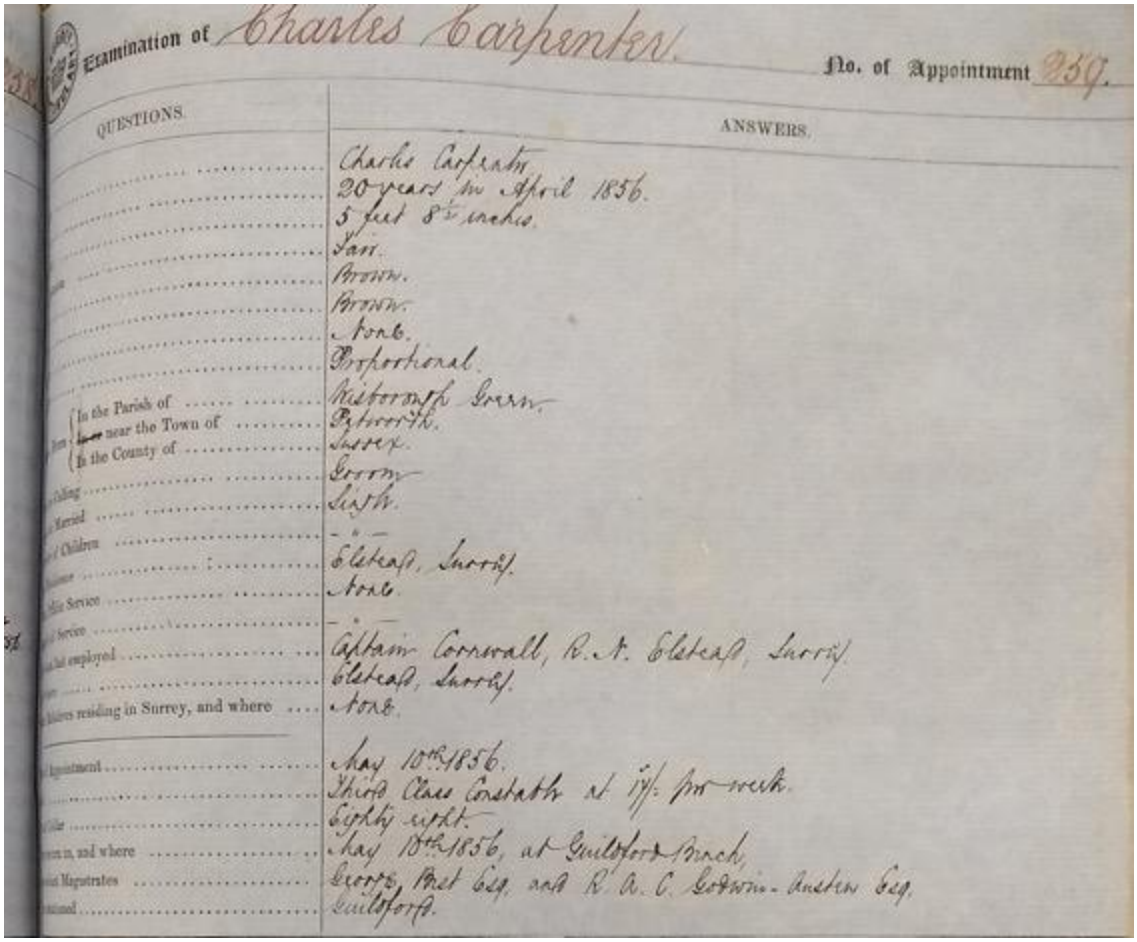
To say this was a retreat would perhaps be a misnomer, for the constables bolted helter-skelter and but for the seriousness of the matter, in a most ludicrous manner. The mob followed them, showering with stones and any other missile which came to hand, until the police station was reached, when the police took shelter, the mob contenting themselves with smashing the windows and doing other damage. Then they returned to the neighbourhood of the fire which being replenished without opposition continued until three o'clock on Friday morning at which time the mob quietly dispersed.

It was during the charge from Mount Street that PC Charles Carpenter received a blow on the left eye from a stone. Some person who happened to be next to the constable picked him up and took him to the Greyhound Inn where it was discovered that a portion of the poor fellow's eye was actually protruding from the socket. Mr H Taylor, surgeon, shortly after arrived and did all that was possible to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate man. Carpenter has

entirely lost his left eye and the medical gentleman considers it extremely doubtful sight will be restored to the other.

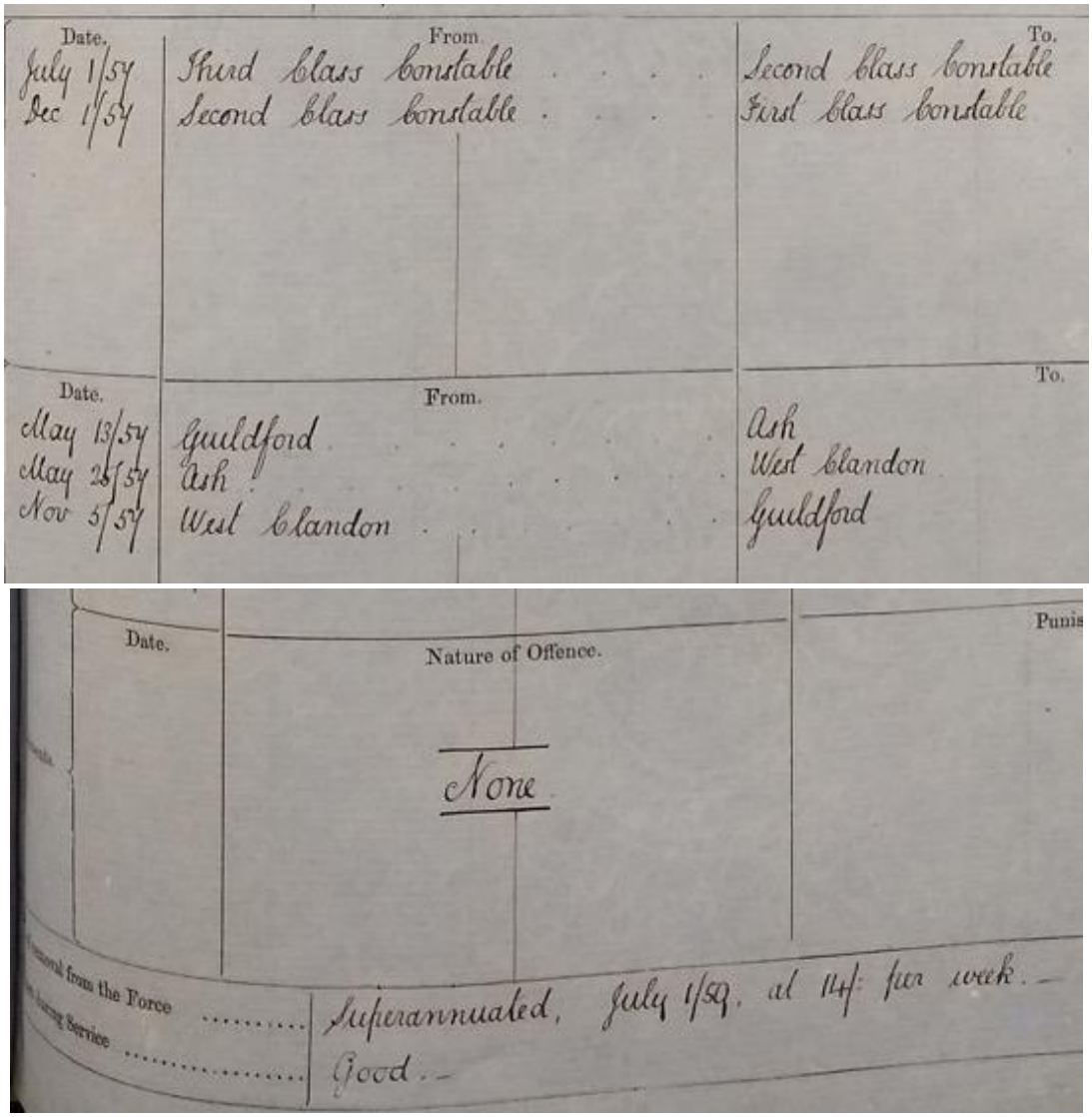
Several other constables were severely injured and it is indeed astonishing, considering the severity of the conflict that no fatal results ensued.

Several of the mob also received severe contusions from the staves of the policemen and in on cease a poor fellow who had been fearfully cut about the head has since died, but whether from the effects thereof or otherwise, has not been clearly proved.



Examination of Charles Carpenter. No. of Appointment 259.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
	Charles Carpenter
	20 years in April 1856.
	5 feet 8½ inches.
	Fair.
	Brown.
	Brown.
	Stout.
	Proportional.
In the Parish of	Westerworth Green
near the Town of	Petworth.
In the County of	Sussex.
	Groom
	Sixth.
	–
	Elstead, Surrey.
	None.
	–
	Captain Cornwall, R.N. Elstead, Surrey.
	Elstead, Surrey.
Relatives residing in Surrey, and where	None.
	May 10th 1856.
	Third Class Constable at 17/- per week.
	Eighty eight.
	May 10th 1856, at Guildford Bench,
	George, Bart Esq. and R. A. C. Godwin-Austen Esq.
	Guildford.



Date.	From.	To.
July 1/54	Third class constable	Second class constable
Dec 1/54	Second class constable . . .	First class constable

Date.	From.	To.
May 13/54	Guildford	Ash
May 28/54	Ash	West Clandon
Nov 5/57	West Clandon	Guildford

Date.	Nature of Offence.	Punis
	None	

Removal from the Force	Superannuated, July 1/59, at 11/- per week.
Leaving Service	Good.

Appointment Register[323]

Following the riot, civil damages were claimed at the county court in Guildford.

1857 December 22: Guildford County Court: Alleged assault by police on **5th November:** William Downes v James William Parr and Gransbury John Bullimer. An action brought to recover the sum of £30 as damages for an assault, alleged to have been committed by the defendants upon the plaintiff during the disturbances in the town on the night of the 5 November. This is a long and detailed report in the newspaper, which will be precied. Downes was a bricklayer and Parr a superintendent of the Surrey Constabulary. Bullimer is a constable in the Guildford Division. (Believed Surrey Constabulary Ripley obviously on aid). Downes left the Ram public house about nine o'clock and crossed to the Bury Street side of the bridge. He saw a row of policeman standing; Mr Parr was wearing long white frock similar to a countryman's and he had a sou'wester on his head. As I got to the centre of the bridge Mr Parr

[323] Appointment Register aka Defaulter's Book reference 9152/1/2/1/1 SCC History Centre assistance of archivist Robert Simonson

gave the order to clear the road and Mr Parr went up to him, sized him and pressed him close to the railings of the bridge.

The other policeman who was behind Downes, struck a severe blow to his face cutting his lip and rendering him nearly senseless. When he recovered his senses Bullimer tried to drag him away. Under cross-examination Downes was asked, as a local resident was, he not aware a serious disturbance was apprehended? He said he was not. Did he know a number of special constables were sworn in? He knew nothing about it. He knew there were only four or five constables attached to Guildford and he recognised there were more than that in the town as they were walking around in pairs. I did not know Mr Parr and I was unaware he was dressed as he was because his uniform had earlier been torn to pieces.

Downes was aware that on a previous 5th November the Riot Act had been read in Guildford. He saw no disturbance, he was not there when stones were thrown at police causing injuries, he did not see the police trying to put a fire out, he did not see people coming towards the fire with railings and gates to keep the fire up. He did not see anyone masked or disguised. (It seems that the county constables may well have been sworn in as special constables for the evening. If that is the case this opens up many issues about normal day-to-day policing between borough and county men). The defence solicitor: Guildford being a borough the justices have the power of requesting the chief officer of the constabulary for Surrey to afford them a certain number of constables for duty and whom he should show were as the statute required duly sworn to act as Special Constables.

A Guildford magistrate gave evidence that as a serious disturbance was apprehended on the night of 5th November, 25 members of the Surrey Constabulary were sworn to act as special constables in the borough on that night. The men including Superintendent Parr were sworn in at about 6pm either on the 4th or 5th before the mayor at the County Police Station. The men were therefore acting in the execution of their duty the only question was, did they use more violence than was necessary? After some legal debate the judge told the jury that he must direct a non-suit to be entered in this case in as much as the plaintiff was bound to give a month's notice (As a police officer was involved – An Act for amending the laws relative to the appointment of Special Constables and for the better preservation of the peace for the protection of persons acting under the Act). Costs were awarded. [324]

[324] 1857 December 22 The Sussex Advertiser, Surrey Gazette